	Tintolilo Severini 171ay 16, 2025
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1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	DISTRICT COURT OF MINNESOTA
3	Criminal No. 24-7 (JMB/DLM)
4	
5	X
6	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, :
7	Plaintiff, :
8	v. :
9	DAVID V. ERICKSON, :
10	Defendant :
11	X
12	
13	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
14	Friday, May 16, 2024
15	Volume II
16	
17	Continued Videotaped Deposition of
18	ANTONIO SEVERIN, a witness herein, called for
19	examination by counsel for the Plaintiff, in the
20	above-mentioned matter, the witness having been
21	duly sworn, taken at Veritext Legal Solutions,
22	77 King Street West, Suite 2020, Toronto, Ontario,
23	commencing at 8:59 a.m. on Friday, May 16, 2025,
24	and the proceedings taken down by Stenotype by
25	JUDITH M. CAPUTO, RPR, CSR, CRR.
	Job No. CS7296587

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1
                   APPEARANCES:
2
      On Behalf of the Plaintiffs:
3
4
      DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, TAX DIVISION
           BORIS BOURGET, Esquire
5
                - AND -
           AMANDA R. SCOTT, Esquire
6
      150 M Street NE
      Washington, DC 20002
7
      (202) 307-2182 (Bourget)
      (202) 718-2056 (Scott)
8
9
      On Behalf of the Defendant,
      David V. Erickson:
1 0
      WILLIAM MAUZY ATTORNEY AT LAW
11
           WILLIAM J. MAUZY, Esquire
               - and -
12
           WILLIAM DOOLING, Esquire
      650 Third Avenue South, Suite 260
13
      Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
      (612) 688-1154
14
15
      On Behalf of Rypl:
16
      JANSSEN LAW PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
      BY: CHARLOTTE JANSSEN, Esquire
17
      89 Scollard Street
      Toronto, Ontario M5R 1G4
18
      (416) 929-1103
      cmj@janssen-law.com
19
2.0
      On Behalf of the Witness:
21
      LIPSITZ GREEN SCIME CAMBRIA
      BY: JUSTIN D. GINTER, Esquire
22
      42 Delaware Avenue, Suite 120
      Buffalo, New York 14202
23
      (716) 849-1333
      jginter@lglaw.com
24
25
```

Page 191 ALSO PRESENT: Rusty Kiser, IRS Criminal Investigation Kandia Aird, Department of Justice Canada VIDEOGRAPHER: Peter Goodale, CLVS

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Page 196 1 Upon commencing at 8:59 a.m. 2 3 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. 4 are going on the record at 8:59 a.m. on May 16, 5 This is Volume 2, media unit one, of the video recorded deposition of Anthony Severin, taken 6 7 by counsel for the Plaintiff in the matter of 8 United States of America versus David V. Erickson. 9 My name is Peter Goodale, certified 10 legal videographer representing Veritext Legal 11 The court reporter is Judith Caputo, Solutions. 12 also from the firm Veritext Legal Solutions. 13 All who were present on May 15, 2025, 14 are present today. 15 Mr. Severin, you are reminded that you 16 are still under oath. Please begin. 17 MR. MAUZY: Thank you. 18 ANTHONY SEVERIN, PREVIOUSLY AFFIRMED. 19 CROSS-EXAMINATION 2.0 BY MR. MAUZY (CONT'D): 21 Good morning, Mr. Severin. 22 Bill Mauzy, representing David Erickson. I'm here 2.3 with Will Dooling, who also represents 24 Mr. Erickson.

I'm going to start with questioning you

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-	
1	about the times that you met with the government to
2	be interviewed. So, the first time, August 24th
3	I'm sorry, November 15th, 2024?
4	A. Correct.
5	Q. And how long was that interview?
6	A. It went over two days.
7	Q. Two days?
8	A. Yeah. I think it was the 14th and
9	15th, or 15th and 16th.
10	Q. And on May 8th, 2025, you were
11	interviewed again; is that correct?
12	A. By video.
13	Q. And that was an interview?
14	A. I'm not sure if it was an
15	interview per se. It was a discussion.
16	Q. Did they ask you questions?
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. And was that Rusty Kiser?
19	A. He was part of that, yes.
20	Q. Yeah. And Shauna Turner, the
21	other special agent?
22	A. I don't remember Shauna Turner.
23	Q. Okay. But they asked you
24	questions?
25	A. That was with Amanda and Boris as
25	A. That was with Amanda and Boris as

		Timomo Severm
		Page 198
1	well.	
2	Q.	Okay. They were on the video?
3	A.	Correct.
4	Q.	Okay. And that was it was
5	August 28th, 201	19?
6	A.	Sorry, I'm getting confused. What
7	date are you ref	Terring to
8	Q.	Okay.
9	Α.	the May 8th?
10	Q.	Yeah. You met with them on
11	May 8th, 2025?	
12	A.	Oh, that was
13	Q.	Sorry?
14	A.	Yes.
15	Q.	Okay. A week ago, right?
16	A.	Correct.
17	Q.	Okay.
18	A.	I did, yeah.
19	Q.	And you were also interviewed by
20	them last year,	correct?
21	A.	On November 15th.
22	Q.	Okay. And did you talk to them
23	this week?	
24	A.	Yes.
25	Q.	Were you aware that Chad Moldon

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1	testified in a deposition this week?
2	A. I was aware.
3	Q. And you were asked questions,
4	again by Rusty Kiser, concerning Rypl and Firefly?
5	A. The discussion this week?
6	Q. Yes.
7	A. By video? No, it was more about
8	the process.
9	Q. What questions did they ask you?
10	A. They just asked they just told
11	me exactly how the process would work, reminded me
12	that I would be under oath, that I would I
13	would you know, to be truthful, to keep to the
14	point.
15	Q. Did they ask you any substantive
16	questions?
17	A. No.
18	Q. At one point when you met with
19	them, did you review your November 2024 memorandum
20	of interview that Rusty Kiser prepared?
21	A. Yes. That would have been on the
22	May 8th, this mid year.
23	Q. And were you asked to make any
24	corrections?
25	A. I did ask to have some

	Timomo severini ivaly 10, 2022
	Page 200
1	corrections.
2	Q. Okay. So it was the
3	November 13th, 2024 interview summary?
4	A. Correct.
5	Q. Okay. I'm going to put that in
6	front of you because I'll be asking you questions
7	from it. I'm not going to introduce it into
8	evidence, but for convenience sake.
9	A. I'll take it.
10	Q. It will speed things along.
11	A. Is it okay, Bill, if I take this?
12	Q. Yes.
13	A. Okay.
14	Q. You recognize that as a memorandum
15	of interview, November 2024?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. And you reviewed that when you met
18	with them last week, correct?
19	A. Correct.
20	Q. And you were asked to make any
21	corrections?
22	A. Correct.
23	Q. Did you make any corrections?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. What were the corrections?

Page 201 I remember one of the corrections 1 2 being, I think it was maybe on -- let me see. 3 Okay. Yeah, on 25, or at 25, the 4 question has not been made on this particular --5 Q. No. 6 -- form here. But, on 25, I think 7 the fourth line. Granity's office is located at 23 8 Seafield. That's actually spelled S-E-A; it's not the letter "C". 9 10 Yeah. What other corrections did Ο. 11 you make? 12 In Dublin. Α. 13 I remember making a correction. Let's 14 I remember making the correction that see here. 15 the actual legal firm that we used in The 16 Netherlands, they -- it was written up as "Tax", 17 T-A-X, and the word "and". It's actually "Taxand," 18 it's just one word. I remember making that 19 correction. And I think there was another one, but 20 I just -- I can't seem to find it right now. 21 Fairly minor corrections? Correct, yes. Yeah, they were 22 Α. 23 minor. 24 Q. Okay. Other than that, the

summary is a correct and accurate summary?

Page 202 1 Α. Yes. 2 Q. All right. When you talked to 3 Agent Kiser on Wednesday afternoon, along with 4 Amanda Scott and Boris Bourget, they actually did 5 ask you significant questions, did they not? 6 Α. They did show me some documents. 7 Q. Yeah. 8 Α. I don't remember them being significant. 9 10 Did they ask you that from the Ο. 11 notes that we were given relating to that 12 Notes say, "paying 90,000 a month and interview? 13 still paying him now." 14 Who were you paying 90,000 a month? 15 Α. That's part of the deal agreement 16 with Bannister. 17 O. Okay. 18 Α. And we are paying the Defendant. 19 Q. The Syntego Buyout? 2.0 Α. Correct. 21 Ο. Okay. You're still paying him on 22 that behalf? 23 Α. Correct. 24 And the Syntego Buyout purpose was Q. 25 to cancel out, eliminate, all of Mr. Erickson's and

Page 203 1 Bannister's loans; is that correct? 2 My understanding is -- was that Α. 3 that particular agreement was to buy out the 4 Defendant --5 Yeah. Ο. 6 -- his ownership stake in the Α. 7 company. 8 Q. Buy out Bannister? 9 Α. Correct. 10 And in the process, that he was Ο. 11 paid some money but he also -- it was deducted from 12 the money owed, the loans that he had with Firefly? 13 Α. That is my understanding. 14 Correct, yeah, my understanding. 15 So, the point of it was to get him 16 some of money and to pay off all of his loans that 17 he had outstanding at Firefly, correct? 18 MS. SCOTT: Objection, compound. 19 THE WITNESS: That was my understanding 20 of what they were trying to do. I was not party to 21 the actual agreement itself. 22 BY MR. MAUZY: 23 Yeah. But the agreement itself Q. 24 accomplished paying off all of Bannister, that is 25 Mr. Erickson's loans to Firefly?

Page 204 1 That's my understanding, correct. Α. 2 Q. You were asked questions about a 3 Sage 300? 4 Correct. Α. 5 Q. And Sage 300 was a software 6 program? 7 Α. It's an accounting software 8 program, correct. 9 And Mr. Erickson and you were Ο. 10 responsible for implementing Sage 300, the 11 accounting software? 12 When I was hired, the decision to Α. 13 go forward with Sage 300 had already been made and, 14 yes, myself and the Defendant integrated it -- or 15 implemented it. 16 So Dave Erickson was responsible Q. 17 for introducing the Sage 300 accounting software? 18 Α. Yes. 19 Q. And that greatly increased the 20 ability of Rypl to keep track of accounting; is 21 that correct? It was a much more robust 22 23 accounting system, and we were able to have 24 multi-company, multi-currency reporting. 25 What impact did that have on the Q.

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running of Rypl and keeping track of all of the companies associated with Firefly?

- A. We were able to, you know, better produce much -- much easier to produce financial statements per company, much easier to get all the -- all the GL codes implemented that we need. We needed also to track divisions, departmental reporting. And consolidate -- primarily, the consolidated statements were much easier to be done with a more robust accounting system.
- Q. And so that was a huge improvement?
 - A. It was, yes.
- Q. Yes. Huge improvement to Rypl and to Firefly to keep track of records?
- A. For the Firefly Group of companies --
- O. Yes.

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- A. -- correct.
- Q. So, it was complicated to have
 numerous entities, but Sage 300 enabled you to keep
 better track of the finances of all of those
 companies, correct?
- A. That is correct.
 - Q. You were asked about Brian Hanlon?

Page 206 1 Α. Correct. 2 Who is he? Q. 3 Α. He's a director, managing 4 director, for Granity Dublin. 5 You were asked the question if he Ο. 6 was ever involved with any of Dave Erickson's payments, and you said he was not? 7 8 Α. He is not, no. 9 You were asked questions about the Ο. 10 United Trust Dashboard. Can you identify that, 11 please? 12 There was a United Trust Α. 13 Dashboard. So, within Sage 300, one of the 14 limiting factors of Sage 300 is -- it's a 15 reporting. So what we do is use a database, a 16 Microsoft database, called Power BI. And so the 17 information from Sage 300 goes into the database, 18 where we can do better reporting. 19 Brian Hanlon has experience with 2.0 project management, so I tasked him with doing 21 reports, and the reports would be these partnership 22 reporting type of reports. And those reports went 2.3 into a folder called United Trust Dashboard. 24 Okay. So, with the implementation Ο. 25 of Sage 300, it was much easier to keep track of

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1	expenses?
2	A. They were easy to it was
3	better, for sure, yeah.
4	Q. An improvement?
5	A. An improvement, correct, to find
6	them.
7	Q. And were you able to track
8	expenses of these various entities?
9	A. Correct.
10	Q. You were able to keep track of
11	payments to shareholders?
12	A. Correct.
13	Q. And you did keep track of payments
14	to shareholders?
15	A. The payments to shareholders were
16	in the ledgers, correct.
17	Q. And including payments to Dave
18	Erickson?
19	A. Including payments to Halstead
20	Bay.
21	Q. Halstead Bay, yeah. Thank you.
22	You were also asked questions about
23	United, the United Trust Dashboard?
24	MS. SCOTT: Objection, asked and
25	answered.

	Tintomo Severini iviaj 10, 2025
	Page 208
1	BY MR. MAUZY:
2	Q. Go ahead.
3	A. Oh, yes.
4	Q. I just want to clear that up.
5	A. Okay.
6	Q. Tell me about the United Trust
7	Dashboard. How was that accessed?
8	A. It was just a report on the Power
9	BI reporting tool. And when you say "United Trust
10	Dashboard," it's a dashboard, it would be a listing
11	of reports.
12	Q. Okay, a listing of reports. Did
13	you have access to that?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. What would be listed on those
16	reports?
17	A. You could list payments per
18	partner, per shareholder.
19	Q. So you could see the payments to
20	the shareholders on the United Trust Dashboard?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. And including payments to David
23	Erickson?
24	A. To Halstead Bay.
25	Q. Halstead. I'm sorry, I'll keep

Page 209
making that mistake. Thank you.
A. And Bannister.
Q. To Bannister and Halstead Bay?
A. Correct.
Q. Thank you.
A. Plus all the other shareholders.
Q. All the other shareholders, okay.
Sage 300 had information going back to
2015?
A. We started we implemented
Sage 300 on January 1st, 2015.
Q. So you just to be clear, I
mean, this was Wednesday night, you were asked
quite a few questions?
A. There was a few questions,
correct, yeah. Clarifications, I guess, so And
to do the questions were to do a list of some
documents that they they were showing me.
Q. Did you say that there were
several businesses and you had to look at a bunch
of sheets to come up with the numbers?
A. I don't remember what that was
referring to. I don't remember what that was for.
Q. Did you tell them that there was
50 to 60 million in revenue for the Firefly

Page 210 1 companies? 2 Correct. Α. 3 And they asked questions of you Ο. 4 about dividends. Did you say they were not dividends but advances? 5 In that period, in the 2014 to 6 Α. 7 2019 period, payments that were classified as 8 dividends were actually made to -- that was changed 9 to advances on dividends, so it was called advances 10 after that, yeah. 11 So there, in the period of time Ο. 12 2014 to 2019, there in fact were no dividends 13 issued by Firefly to the shareholders? 14 Correct. There was no dividends, 15 there was no dividend resolutions. They were not classified as dividends. 16 17 So, to have a dividend, there had 18 to be a resolution, correct? 19 Α. Correct. 2.0 And during the period of time 2013 Ο. 21 to 2019, there were no resolutions, correct? 22 Α. Correct. 2.3 And without resolutions, there Q. couldn't be a dividend? 24 25 MS. SCOTT: Objection, asked and

	Tintolilo Sevelli 114y 10, 2025
	Page 211
1	answered.
2	BY MR. MAUZY:
3	Q. Go ahead.
4	A. That's my understanding.
5	Q. And no dividends, in fact, were
6	issued between 2013 to 2019?
7	A. Correct.
8	Q. What's the approximate revenue for
9	Firefly during those years?
10	A. Firefly, the company?
11	Q. The entities.
12	A. Oh, the entity? Sorry, the
13	question was revenue, you're talking about?
14	Q. Yes.
15	A. Yeah, it was about, you know, 60
16	million.
17	Q. 60 million during the period of
18	time
19	A. Correct.
20	Q 2013 to '19?
21	A. Maybe a bit more.
22	Q. And if you wanted records from
23	Firefly, you could go to the director of Firefly?
24	A. If I wanted like, share
25	registers, incorporation documents, all those

Page 212 1 corporate records were kept by United Trust as a 2 director. 3 And you had access to those? Ο. 4 Α. I would ask them, somebody at 5 United Trust, and they would provide them to me. 6 Q. And they would give them to you? 7 Α. Correct. 8 Q. So you'd ask for those records at 9 Firefly and they would give you the records you 10 asked for? 11 I would ask somebody at United Α. 12 Trust. 13 Ο. At United Trust? 14 Correct. 15 Okay. And you were asked O. 16 questions whether the partners always wanted money. 17 Let's talk about that for a moment. So, this is a 18 company that was started up, true? It started up 19 small? 2.0 Α. Yeah, I wasn't there. 21 MS. SCOTT: Objection, personal, 22 foundation. 23 THE WITNESS: Yeah. I wasn't there. 24 I'm assuming, yeah, it was an entrepreneurial --25 you know, did have a entrepreneur bent, let's put

	Page 213
1	it that way.
2	BY MR. MAUZY:
3	Q. Okay. So this was an enterprise?
4	A. It was an enterprise, yes.
5	Q. Started by entrepreneurs?
6	A. Correct.
7	Q. People who invested in the
8	business?
9	MS. SCOTT: Objection, foundation.
10	THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't I'm not
11	sure. I wouldn't say "invested," but invested
12	their time, that much I know.
13	BY MR. MAUZY:
14	Q. Yes. And the business became
15	successful?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. And when people invest in a
18	company and that company becomes successful, the
19	owners of the company typically want to receive the
20	fruits of their investment, correct?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. They want to receive money?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. That's the hope of every business
25	that is started by individuals, that

	Page 214
1	MS. SCOTT: Objection, foundation,
2	improper opinion.
3	MR. MAUZY: A number of times, you
4	asked me to allow you to finish the question. I
5	ask you for the same courtesy that I extended to
6	you. Thank you.
7	BY MR. MAUZY:
8	Q. In businesses that start up, the
9	owners of the business desire to receive money from
10	the business?
11	MS. SCOTT: Objection, foundation,
12	improper opinion.
13	THE WITNESS: I would put it that
14	obviously we businesses try to be as profitable
15	as possible, and then hopefully the shareholders
16	benefit from that, yes, yes.
17	BY MR. MAUZY:
18	Q. Right. And this is an obvious
19	fact
20	A. Yeah.
21	Q people who set up businesses
22	desire to receive money from the businesses?
23	A. Sure. Shareholders want to be
24	compensated, for sure.
25	Q. Shareholders want to participate

Dogo 215
Page 215
in the profits of the business that they own?
MS. SCOTT: Objection, foundation,
improper opinion.
THE WITNESS: Correct.
BY MR. MAUZY:
Q. And the shareholders are the
owners of the business?
A. That is correct.
Q. Shareholders want to receive the
benefit of that ownership and receive funds from
the business?
MS. SCOTT: Asked and answered.
THE WITNESS: Yeah, that's correct.
BY MR. MAUZY:
Q. Nothing unusual about that?
A. No.
Q. And let's talk about Dave Erickson
was a shareholder through Bannister, correct, of
Firefly?
A. Yes. He was one of the founders
and a shareholder of the UBO for Bannister. And
Bannister was a shareholder.
Bannister was a shareholder. Q. And who were the other founding

Page 216 1 were -- the holding companies changed, but David van der Poel would be another founding member, and 2 Toine Rodenburg, and his company is 10Q21. 3 4 And those shareholders also wanted 5 to receive funds from Firefly, the entities, the group that they had ownership interest in? 6 7 They wanted to obviously receive 8 compensation, right, if the company did well, yes. 9 All of the shareholders of Ο. 10 Firefly, like David Erickson and Bannister, were 11 interested in receiving payments, correct? 12 That's my understanding. Α. 13 And they did receive, in the form Ο. 14 of advances? 15 Yes. Α. 16 In the period of time 2013 to Ο. 17 2019, all of the major shareholders received 18 advances? 19 Α. They were receiving the monthly -what was named advance on dividends, correct. 20 And they also received consulting 21 Ο. 22 fees? 23 And they received consulting fees, Α. 24 correct. 25 So, all of the shareholders Yeah. Q.

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1	received both consulting fees and advances; is that
2	correct?
3	A. Yeah. Some of them, the operating
4	ones that came later, they would typically be on
5	payroll. But they did receive payroll. So it
6	would be payroll, consulting, and also the
7	advances.
8	Q. And those were the the new
9	shareholders?
10	A. Correct.
11	Q. Like Chad Moldon, Ryan Maule,
12	Kevin Krieg?
13	A. That's correct.
14	Q. Okay. Those people received some
15	advances and some consulting?
16	A. Correct, consulting/payroll if
17	they were on payroll.
18	Q. Okay. And the major shareholders
19	received monthly consulting and also received
20	advances?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. Okay. And those advances were
23	recorded?
24	A. Correct.
25	Q. And kept track of?

Page 218 1 Α. Correct. 2 Q. You kept track of the advances to Dave Erickson and Bannister? 3 4 Α. Correct. 5 You kept track of any loans that Ο. 6 he took out? They were -- that was all in the 7 Α. 8 ledgers, correct, in the general ledgers. 9 So the loans that David Erickson Ο. received from Firefly in the period of time 2013 to 10 11 2019, those were recorded in the books of Rypl, 12 correct? 13 Α. Correct. 14 And you were aware of those and 15 they were recorded and available? 16 Α. They were -- could -- yes, they 17 could have been made available, correct. 18 And the point of the advances was 19 that eventually the advances would be paid back by 20 dividends from the Firefly entities; is that 21 correct? That was my understanding, that --22 23 that there was issues, which I don't know why, but 24 there was issues in having those declared as 25 dividends. And then when they were -- that at some

Page 219 point dividends would be declared and the amount of 1 2 the dividends would be offset against the advances 3 that were being paid in. 4 Okay. So let me make sure I understand that. 5 6 So they -- all of the shareholders 7 received advances, but the idea was eventually dividends would be declared after a resolution was 8 9 passed and then those advances would be, in effect, a credit against what they were going to receive as 10 11 dividends? 12 Correct, they would be offset Α. 13 payment --14 It would offset the dividends; it Ο. 15 would be deducted from the dividends owing to the shareholders? 16 17 The amount of the dividends would Α. 18 be less advances. 19 Ο. Reduced? 2.0 Α. Yes. 21 The dividends would be reduced by Ο. 22 the amount of the --2.3 The amount paid. The dividend Α. itself would be the same but the amount paid on the 24

dividend would be less because it would be offset

Page 220 1 against the advances. 2 Q. The dividend, the gross amount is the same but the net amount is less because there 3 4 would be a deduction for the advances? 5 Α. Correct. Okay. And David Erickson and 6 7 Bannister, when they received funds from -- from 8 you, Rypl and Firefly, those are generally recorded 9 as loans? 10 Α. They would be recorded as -- if 11 they were paid by Rypl, they would have been 12 recorded as a loan from -- owing from Firefly, and I assume on the Firefly books, it would be a loan 13 14 from Halstead -- or to Halstead Bay. 15 So, with Halstead Bay, it would be 16 recorded as a loan from Firefly to Halstead Bay? 17 On the books of Halstead Bay? Α. 18 Ο. No, I'm talking about on the books 19 of --20 Α. Of Firefly? 21 Ο. Of Firefly, yeah. 22 Α. Correct, that's... 23 And the idea was that those sums, Q. 24 like the advances, that even if they're 25 characterized as loans, those would be deducted

	Page 221
1	from eventual dividends?
2	A. That was my understanding.
3	Q. And those are outstanding
4	throughout the period 2013 to 2019, correct?
5	A. Yes, that was my understanding.
6	Q. Let me go back to the beginning
7	here.
8	You were asked back in November of 2024
9	whether you would be willing to come to the United
10	States and attend the David Erickson trial; is that
11	correct?
12	A. I was, yeah.
13	Q. Did you have you been to the
14	United States?
15	A. Have I ever been to the United
16	States?
17	Q. Yes.
18	A. Ever?
19	Q. Yeah.
20	A. Yes, I have been to the United
21	States. Beautiful country.
22	Q. Have you ever been to Minnesota?
23	A. Yeah, yes.
24	Q. Some people believe that's part of
25	Canada, I think that's

	Page 222
1	Do you have any trouble in United
2	States?
3	A. I do not, no.
4	Q. Any reason you'd be concerned
5	about going to the United States?
6	A. No.
7	Q. Would you voluntarily go to the
8	United States?
9	A. Voluntarily go to the United
10	States?
11	Q. Yeah.
12	A. I have been to the U.S. and I've
13	done this all voluntary, yes.
14	Q. Were you willing to be a witness
15	in the United States?
16	A. Per counsel's advice, the advice
17	was not to come to Minnesota for the trial.
18	Q. Was there any any other reason,
19	other than advice of counsel, that you declined to
20	go to the United States?
21	A. That was the reason, yeah.
22	Q. The payments made to Firefly
23	shareholders from Rypl were on behalf of the
24	Firefly Group; is that correct?
25	A. The Rypl payments for were only

Page 223 1 in the case of Halstead Bay. 2 Q. Yes? 3 Α. And they were on behalf of the 4 Firefly --5 Is that correct? Ο. 6 -- group, correct. Α. 7 Q. It wasn't Rypl's money? 8 Α. It was Rypl's money being used but 9 -- but would be offset by monies received from Firefly. 10 11 All right. So, ultimately, it was Ο. Firefly's money? 12 13 Α. Correct. 14 And any payments to Erickson 15 between 2014 and 2019 from Rypl, that would be 16 Firefly's money? 17 Correct. I'm not a hundred -- at Α. 18 some point, I'm not sure which year, the payments 19 did come directly, started coming directly from 20 Firefly bank account. But for that period, I want 21 to say the 2014 to 2018/'19, those payments did 22 come from Firefly and were -- were -- did come from 23 Rypl and were Firefly's -- those were Firefly's 24 responsibility. 25 Firefly's responsibility and Q.

	Page 224
1	Firefly's money?
2	A. At the end, yes.
3	Q. To pay to
4	A. Correct.
5	Q Halstead Bay?
6	A. To reimburse Rypl.
7	Q. All right.
8	[Reporter intervened for clarification
9	purposes]
10	BY MR. MAUZY:
11	Q. Let me start over again. So the
12	money during the period of time 2013 to 2019 that
13	went to Halstead Bay was Firefly money?
14	A. It was considered Firefly's
15	responsibility and Firefly's payment, correct.
16	Q. Okay. Firefly's payment to
17	Halstead Bay?
18	A. Correct.
19	Q. Rypl handled the transaction, but
20	the source of the funds was Firefly?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. And that money that was paid to
23	Erickson through Halstead Bay between 2014 and 2019
24	couldn't be a dividend because there was not a
25	resolution for a dividend?

Page 225 They were not coded as 1 Correct. dividends because there was no dividend resolution 2 3 to support it being called a dividend. 4 And for Halstead Bay, it was a Q. loan? 5 6 Α. Correct. 7 Q. And it was coded as a loan? 8 Α. Correct. 9 And Halstead Bay, with that loan, Ο. would have to pay that money back at some point in 10 11 the future? 12 My understanding is that they Α. would have been -- those monies would be offset 13 14 against the dividend, as we talked about earlier. 15 Yes, and they'd be paid back 16 ultimately by dividends from Firefly? 17 That's my understanding. 18 Ο. And shareholders were entitled to 19 dividends if a resolution was passed authorizing 2.0 that? 21 It would have to be a Α. Correct. 22 Board resolution to -- to declare a dividend. 2.3 And those dividends would pay back Q. 24 the loans, correct? 25 Those dividends that the -- my Α.

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CASE 0:24-cr-00007-JMB-DLM Doc. 136-4 Filed 06/27/25 Page 38 of 253 Antonio Severin Page 226 understanding was that those dividend resolutions would be used to pay back outstanding loans. And in 2021, is it true that Ο. Firefly began issuing resolutions to pay down the advances and loans that shareholders had received over the years? Α. The -- there was a dividend in 2021 from Firefly, in the amount of 1,869,000. I don't believe that particular one was used to pay down any outstanding advances. Yeah. We'll look at that Ο. resolution in a minute. Let's look at -- let's see if we can put on the screen Government Exhibit 5. the resolution in 2023 that you looked at yesterday? Α. I'm not sure if this was the one, the \$5 million from, I believe --8 -- \$8 million, I believe. O.

- This one's 5 million. Α.
- Give us a second here.
- (Brief pause in the proceedings).

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Excuse me for interrupting. Mr. Ginter, could you move the microphone six inches closer to the witness?

	Page 227
1	MR. GINTER: Yes.
2	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Thank you.
3	MS. SCOTT: Mr. Mauzy, for your
4	reference, yesterday I showed two resolutions, they
5	were Defense Exhibits D-46 and also D-9.
6	MR. MAUZY: Thank you.
7	Okay, we're going to put up on the
8	screen D-9.
9	EXHIBIT NO. D-9: Resolutions of the
10	Sole Managing Director of Firefly Lane
11	Corporation N.V. adopted August 10th, 2023.
12	BY MR. MAUZY:
13	Q. I hand you what's been marked as
14	Defendant's Exhibit 9, ask you if you recognize
15	that as a resolution adopted August 10th, 2023, a
16	resolution of the sole managing director of Firefly
17	Lane Corporation?
18	A. Yes. Yes, that's what it is.
19	Q. Okay. I believe this has been
20	received, but this looks like a true and correct
21	copy of the resolution that was issued in
22	August 10th, 2023?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. And the second paragraph states
25	that numerous shareholders have received

	Page 228
1	interest-free loans?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Is that your understanding, that
4	numerous shareholders of Firefly had received
5	interest-free loans?
6	A. Yes, those advances discussed
7	there.
8	Q. The advances were in fact
9	interest-free loans?
10	A. Yeah. They were interest-free,
11	yes.
12	Q. Yes. And the loans to Halstead
13	Bay were interest-free?
14	A. I've never seen the loan
15	documents, so, um
16	Q. No interest was paid on those
17	loans?
18	A. Correct.
19	Q. And looking at paragraph 5
20	paragraph 4 is:
21	"[] the Company should
22	declare a dividend payable to its
23	shareholders of record in the amount
24	of Eight Million []"
25	Is that correct?

	Page 229
1	A. Correct.
2	Q. And the next paragraph, does it
3	say:
4	"Pursuant to discussion and
5	vote of the Company's shareholders
6	on August 9 and 10, 2023 it was
7	determined by unanimous vote []
8	the extent any shareholder is in
9	debt to the Company for loans
10	outstanding, the Company may retain
11	all or a portion of that
12	shareholder's share of the dividend
13	paid by the Company []"
14	A. Correct.
15	Q. And the company would make
16	corresponding journal entries into the company's
17	books and records?
18	A. Correct.
19	Q. So the dividend that would be
20	declared, there would be a deduction to the
21	shareholder for the loans outstanding to the
22	company?
23	A. Correct.
24	Q. And it was resolved that this
25	amount would be \$8 million that would be paid to

	Page 230
1	the shareholders?
2	A. The dividend was \$8 million,
3	correct.
4	Q. And from that, there would be a
5	deduction to the extent there were loans
6	outstanding?
7	A. Correct.
8	Q. Yeah. And this is signed by
9	Gregory Elias?
10	A. Correct.
11	Q. And he was the director of United
12	International Trust?
13	A. Yeah, he's the director for
14	Firefly
15	Q. Authorized
16	A. Yeah.
17	Q. Pardon me?
18	A. Yeah, he's a he's, I guess, a
19	director of United International Trust, and United
20	International Trust is the director of Firefly,
21	yeah.
22	Q. Okay. And he was authorized to
23	speak on behalf of Firefly?
24	A. Correct, yeah.
25	Q. So this is a resolution granting

	Page 231
1	\$8 million to the shareholder?
2	A. Correct.
3	Q. And you were aware of this
4	document?
5	A. Yes.
6	EXHIBIT NO. D-10: Syntego Bay Purchase
7	Agreement adopted March 28, 2024.
8	BY MR. MAUZY:
9	Q. I'm going to show you Defendant's
10	Exhibit 10 and ask you if you recognize that as the
11	Syntego Bay Purchase Agreement.
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. And this is a purchase of a
14	hundred percent of the issued and outstanding
15	shares of Bannister Corporation for purpose of
16	acquisition of shares owned by Bannister and
17	Denningshire, correct?
18	A. Correct.
19	Q. And there's an agreement to pay
20	the purchase price of \$9,668,100?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. In paragraph 1, it says:
23	"Firefly shall apply the sales
24	proceeds to pay an amount equal to
25	the adjusted outstanding debt owed

Page 232 1 by Seller and/or Related Entities to 2 Firefly and/or Related Entities." 3 Correct? 4 That is correct. Α. 5 Ο. And the current unreconciled 6 amount was 5,579,570, correct? 7 Α. Correct. 8 Q. So from the 9,668,100 purchase 9 price, there would be a deduction to pay off the 10 outstanding debt in the amount of 5,579,570? 11 That is correct. Α. 12 And in addition to that deduction, O. 13 in paragraph 6, the purchaser and Firefly would pay 14 Bannister two and a half million dollars on closing 15 by wire transfer? Paragraph 6. 16 Yeah, number 6 states that the --Α. 17 that the purchaser and Firefly pay 2.5 million on 18 closing as a wire transfer to Eidsness Law Office 19 PLC --2.0 Ο. Yes. 21 Α. -- in trust. And... Yeah. 22 Ο. And paragraph 7, there's an 23 agreement that the purchaser and Firefly shall pay 24 the balance of the purchase price directly to the 25 account of the seller. The seller was Bannister?

	Page 233
1	A. The seller was David Erickson.
2	Q. And the shares were Bannister?
3	A. His shares in Bannister, correct.
4	Q. But he officially was the seller?
5	A. Correct.
6	Q. And he's identified as seller on
7	the first page, correct?
8	A. Correct.
9	Q. And paragraph 7 says that the
10	seller, that is David Erickson, will be paid
11	directly equal monthly installments of 89,583.35
12	over 24 months following closing?
13	A. Correct.
14	Q. And this agreement was signed by
15	David Erickson?
16	A. It is signed by David Erickson as
17	a seller.
18	Q. And signed by David Erickson on
19	behalf of Bannister?
20	A. As a shareholder, correct.
21	Q. And by Greg Elias on behalf of
22	Syntego?
23	A. Correct.
24	Q. And Greg Elias on behalf of
25	Firefly?

Page 234 On behalf of Fire -- correct. 1 2 Q. Okay. And Greg Elias stated that he had authority to bind the corporation? 3 4 To bind Firefly? Sorry? Does he write -- does he sign 5 6 above the line that says, "I have the authority to 7 bind the Corporation on Firefly"? 8 Α. Under Firefly, yes. 9 Yes. And under Syntego Bay? O. 10 Α. Yes. 11 So he's representing that he has 0. 12 the authority to bind Firefly Lane? 13 Α. Yes. 14 Okay. And in 13, you say, 15 "Excluded Assets," "1,620,000 Dividend Receivable from Firefly in favour of Bannister"? 16 17 Α. Correct. 18 Ο. And looking at 23 -- I'm sorry, 19 21. Does that indicate: 20 "If substantially all of the 21 assets or shares of Firefly are sold 22 at any time that there is any 23 principal amount outstanding under 24 the Promissory Note, for an amount 25 in excess of \$50,000,000, an amount

	Page 235
1	equal to 20% of the positive
2	difference between the aggregate net
3	purchase price of such assets and
4	shares and \$50,000,000, shall be
5	paid" by the Seller. [As read]
6	A. Yes, that's what it says.
7	Q. So, in other words, if after this
8	agreement, if Firefly was sold for in excess of
9	\$50 million, then the seller may be entitled to
10	additional compensation?
11	A. That's my understanding of that
12	paragraph.
13	Q. Considering the purchase price was
14	9,668,100 that was for 20.25 percent interest in
15	Firefly, can you calculate the approximate value of
16	Firefly based on the purchase price of that 20.25
17	interest?
18	A. Can I calculate it or
19	Q. Yes.
20	A. Ballpark, it's about 50 million.
21	Q. 50 million?
22	A. Yeah.
23	Q. And the intent of this purchase
24	agreement was to wipe out David Erickson's and
25	Bannister's loans with Firefly and/or related

	Page 236
1	entities, correct?
2	MS. SCOTT: Objection, lack of
3	foundation.
4	THE WITNESS: My understanding of the
5	purchase was to exit the Defendant from the
6	shareholder group.
7	BY MR. MAUZY:
8	Q. In effect, it was a buy-out of
9	Dave Erickson?
10	A. Correct.
11	Q. And in exchange for the buy-out,
12	there would be a payoff of all of the loans owing
13	to Firefly and related entities by Bannister and
14	Dave Erickson?
15	A. Correct.
16	Q. There were also there was also
17	a resolution for a \$5 million dividend to be issued
18	by shareholders?
19	A. There is.
20	Q. Do you remember that?
21	A. There was a \$500,000 resolution,
22	correct.
23	EXHIBIT NO. D-56: Resolution of the
24	Sole Managing Director of Firefly
25	Corporation N.V. adopted December 15, 2021

Page 237 1 (USAProd00403432). 2 BY MR. MAUZY: 3 Ο. Okay. I'm going to show you 4 what's been marked as Defendant's Exhibit 56, and 5 see if you recognize that as a resolution of Firefly. 6 7 Α. Yes. 8 Q. And this is again signed by 9 Gregory Elias on behalf of United International Trust? 10 11 Α. Correct. 12 Does this resolve that the company O. 13 will pay a yearly dividend of 5 million prior to 14 the end of 2022? 15 Correct. Yeah. 16 And this dividend, unlike -- this O. 17 resolution, unlike the previous resolution, does 18 not have language that says it would be applied to 19 outstanding loans? 2.0 Α. Correct. 21 It recognizes in paragraph 3 that 22 shareholders have received interest-free loans? 2.3 Α. Correct. 24 But it doesn't have the language Ο. 25 in the \$8 million dividend that the dividend would

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	Page 238
1	be applied to outstanding debt?
2	A. That is correct.
3	Q. Yeah. And you'd seen this
4	resolution before?
5	A. Yes.
6	Q. Yeah, you were familiar with it?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. Okay. And this appears to be
9	authentic?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. I'm going to show you what's been
12	marked as Defense Exhibit 57 and ask you if you
13	recognize that as a resolution of the sole managing
14	director of Firefly Lane Corporation NV?
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. You recognize this resolution?
17	A. I do.
18	Q. You had received this resolution
19	at the time?
20	A. We did.
21	Q. This appears to be authentic to
22	you
23	A. Yes.
24	Q you recognize it? Yeah.
25	And this again is a resolution by

Page 239 Gregory Elias, director of United International 1 2 Trust NV, right? 3 Α. Correct. 4 And he also was authorized to speak on behalf of Firefly and its entities? 5 6 Α. Correct. 7 Q. And, at paragraph 2, it says that 8 there was: 9 "...a discussion and vote of 10 the Company's shareholders on 11 January 12, 2023, it was determined 12 [...] that the Company should 13 declare a yearly dividend payable to 14 its shareholders of record as of 15 January 1, 2023, in the amount of 16 \$3,000,000 to be paid prior to the 17 end of 2023..." 18 Correct. 19 Q. And, again, this resolution does 20 not have the language that the dividend should be 21 used in part to pay off any debts? 22 That is correct. 23 And the reason for that is that Q. the debts had already been paid off? 24 25 I don't know why there's no Α.

Page 240 1 language in there. 2 Q. Okay. But you recognize this as a resolution that you received January 12th, 2023? 3 4 Correct, this is dividend resolution for 2023. 5 6 Q. If you give me a minute, please. 7 Α. Okay. 8 (Brief pause in the proceedings). 9 BY MR. MAUZY: All right. So looking at -- we've 10 Ο. 11 looked at two -- we've looked at three resolutions. 12 The second and third are 55 and 57, a \$5 million dividend and a \$3 million dividend. Were there 13 14 some difficulties in getting those dividends to 15 David Erickson and Bannister? 16 I don't remember having The 22 -- there was a situation 17 difficulties. 18 where they were offset by -- there was loans given 19 to a new company that Mr. Erickson did up, called 20 Raindrop. 21 Ο. Yes. 22 That was because there was some 23 And once we got the banking issues banking issues. cleared, we -- we did offset those. 24 25 Q. Okay. So there were -- there was

	Page 241
1	a loan issued to Raindrop, but there were some
2	banking difficulties in paying money to Bannister
3	and David Erickson. Money was issued to Raindrop
4	instead?
5	A. Correct.
6	Q. And once it was issue
7	A. In a loan document.
8	Q. In a loan document
9	A. Yeah.
10	Q which was properly prepared?
11	A. Correct.
12	Q. And the loan document said that
13	there it would be paid back?
14	A. Correct.
15	Q. And the funds were transferred to
16	Raindrop?
17	A. And the funds were yes. A loan
18	was made to Raindrop, paid to Raindrop.
19	Q. And that loan was paid back?
20	A. Those were, those amounts were
21	offset by dividends
22	Q. Okay.
23	A that were to be paid by
24	Bannister, but were not.
25	Q. All right. So, really, the same

	Page 242
1	situation, a loan was extended or let's start
2	over.
3	There were banking difficulties in
4	getting dividends to Bannister and David Erickson.
5	And because of those banking difficulties, Raindrop
6	was formed and Raindrop received a loan from
7	Firefly?
8	A. Yeah, I'm not
9	MS. SCOTT: Objection, misstating the
10	witness.
11	THE WITNESS: I'm not I don't know
12	why Raindrop itself was formed.
13	BY MR. MAUZY:
14	Q. Yeah?
15	A. But that's but there was a loan
16	that was made to Raindrop, and those were offset
17	when the Bannister bank account was set up at
18	Yoursafe, and the first payments were offset
19	against an amount owing from
20	Q. And that
21	[Reporter intervened for clarification
22	purposes]
23	THE WITNESS: From Raindrop.
24	BY MR. MAUZY:
25	Q. And that took care of the Raindrop

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	Page 243
1	loan?
2	A. Correct.
3	Q. Okay. So the Raindrop loan was
4	extinguished by those dividends?
5	A. It was it was paid off.
6	[Reporter intervened for clarification
7	purposes]
8	BY MR. MAUZY:
9	Q. And the dividends that were used
10	to pay off the Raindrop loan were dividends from
11	the \$5 million resolution and the \$3 million
12	resolution?
13	A. I'm not I'm not a hundred
14	percent sure which resolution was, but yes, it was
15	one of those.
16	Q. One of those two?
17	A. Correct.
18	Q. And that was Exhibit 55 and
19	Exhibit 56. 55 was a \$5 million dividend, 56
20	I'm sorry. 57 was the \$3 million dividend?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. Okay. So one of the other
23	dividends authorized by Greg Elias on behalf of
24	Firefly was utilized to pay off the Raindrop loan,
25	correct?

	Page 244
1	A. That is correct.
2	Q. All right. Let's turn to 2024.
3	Erickson was an owner of Firefly in 2024?
4	A. Bannister was an owner, a
5	shareholder, of Firefly.
6	Q. Okay. So Erickson was the owner
7	of Bannister; Bannister was an owner of Firefly?
8	A. Correct.
9	Q. Okay. And Bannister owned
10	50 percent of Demmingshire Corporation?
11	A. That is my understanding.
12	Q. And Bannister owned 20.25 percent
13	of Firefly Lane?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. And his ownership was always
16	reflected in his ownership of Bannister, right?
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. And the reason that Erickson was
19	bought out, because he was indicted?
20	A. That was one of the reasons, yes.
21	Q. Yeah. And an indictment is a
22	criminal charge?
23	A. Correct.
24	Q. And, ultimately, an indictment is
25	goes to a jury trial. On the jury trial, the

	Page 245
1	jury will decide whether or not he is guilty or not
2	guilty?
3	A. Correct.
4	Q. Correct?
5	A. Yeah.
6	Q. So an indictment is just a charge,
7	correct?
8	A. That's my understanding.
9	Q. And because of that charge,
10	though, banks get nervous about someone who has
11	been charged criminally?
12	A. There's, certain banks are most
13	of the banks will have banking applications, and
14	within that, there are questions such as, "Have you
15	been indicted for a crime?"
16	Q. And Firefly and Rypl had
17	difficulty from time to time with banks?
18	A. Correct. Firefly more than Rypl,
19	but yes.
20	Q. And Firefly would be concerned
21	that if they had an owner who had been criminally
22	charged, that banks would not do business with
23	Firefly?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. And that would be a diaster for

		Thromo Severini 1714y 10, 2023
		Page 246
1	Firefly?	
2	Α.	Yeah. That would be bad, yes.
3	Q.	That could put them out of
4	business?	
5	Α.	I don't know um
6	Q.	It would
7	Α.	Yeah, it would stop yeah, bank
8	accounts would	not provide banking, yes.
9	Q.	Without banking, Firefly would be
10	out of busines	ss?
11	Α.	Firefly, the entity, would be out
12	of business.	It would not be able to function.
13	Q.	And you were involved in coding
14	the buy-out of	Erickson and Bannister, correct?
15	Α.	Correct.
16	Q.	You worked with Brian Hanlon,
17	correct?	
18	Α.	Correct.
19	Q.	And Hanlon worked for Granity?
20	Α.	Correct.
21	Q.	And you also worked with
22	accountants at	BB Advisory?
23	Α.	Correct.
24	Q.	What is BB Advisory?
25	Α.	They're an outsourced accounting
	I	

	Page 247
1	firm, based in India.
2	Q. And you utilized them for
3	accounting purposes?
4	A. Yes, mainly clerical, but they do
5	have some skilled accountants on staff as well.
6	Q. And that was a cost-saving
7	measure?
8	A. Yes. On the clerical side, yeah.
9	Q. Okay. On the clerical side, they
10	do a good job and their services were
11	A. Correct.
12	Q relatively, in comparison to
13	Canada, inexpensive?
14	A. Correct.
15	Q. All right. Now, the buy-out deal
16	was valued at 47 million, correct?
17	A. That sounds like
18	Q. No, I mean you estimated it was
19	about 50 million?
20	A. Yeah.
21	Q. 20.25 percent of the shares were
22	worth 9,668,000. So, approximately, the value of
23	Firefly was around 50 million, right?
24	A. Correct.
25	Q. And that was the number that the

Page 248 shareholders of Firefly determined; is that 1 2 correct? 3 Α. Yes. 4 Q. And from the 9.5 million that he received, you deducted the amount that he owed at 5 6 the time of the buy-out? 7 Per the buy-out document -- per 8 the agreement. 9 Ο. Yes? 10 Α. The amount of \$5,579,570 was 11 determined to be the unreconciled amount, and that 12 would have been the amount that was deducted. 13 Ο. I want to look at Government 14 Exhibit 59. 15 It's up on the screen. I believe you 16 looked at this yesterday. Can you identify this? 17 Α. Yes. 18 O. What is it? 19 Α. This is a deck prepared by the 20 Defendant, to be used basically as an RFP for banking services. 21 22 Ο. And does this state that the 23 organization has roughly 60 million in annual 24 shares -- in annual sales, excuse me, operating 25 Cam4?

	Timomo Beverini iviag 10, 2025
	Page 249
1	A. Yes.
2	Q. 60 million in annual sales
3	operating Cam4?
4	A. Correct.
5	Q. So profitable company?
6	A. It was, yes. It is.
7	Q. Is that consistent with your
8	understanding of the annual sales of Cam4
9	stemming from Cam4?
10	A. Yes. It's above that now, but
11	probably at the time of this
12	Q. At the time of that?
13	A. That preparation, yes.
14	Q. It had become more than that?
15	A. It has become more than that, yes.
16	Q. Okay. What was the amount in
17	annual sales in 2020?
18	A. 2020, it would have been, you
19	know, close to 70 million.
20	Q. And in 2022?
21	A. I think we've we've gone back a
22	bit. So now we're in probably around the 65
23	million.
24	Q. And the next year?
25	A. About 65 million.

	Page 250
1	Q. And '24?
2	A. '24, a little less than that,
3	maybe about 63 million.
4	Q. Okay. And at the present?
5	A. Present, we're tracking about 65
6	million.
7	Q. All right. So essentially the
8	buy-out was put a valuation of about 50 million,
9	which is an amount less than valuations put on
10	Firefly in the future?
11	A. Sorry?
12	Q. Would the valuation of Firefly
13	have gone up from the time of the Syntego Buyout?
14	A. Well, Syntego Buyout was 2024,
15	right?
16	Q. Yes.
17	A. Yeah, that I don't I don't know
18	the value of Firefly right now.
19	Q. Okay. But you do know the annual
20	sales?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. And someone could compute, a
23	business evaluation person could compute the value
24	from annual sales that repeated year after year?
25	A. I would

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1	MS. SCOTT: Objection, lack of
2	foundation.
3	THE WITNESS: I would assume they'd be
4	more on the profits than the actual revenues, but
5	yeah, the valuation it's different methods for
6	business valuation.
7	BY MR. MAUZY:
8	Q. Okay. Let's look at Exhibit 57,
9	Government Exhibit 57. We'll try to put that up on
10	the board.
11	Does this exhibit show 35 million in
12	net income between November 2012 and December 2021?
13	A. Yes.
14	Q. Is that an accurate amount, in
15	your judgment?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. And this is after all of the
18	company expenses were taken care of, paid?
19	A. Correct. That's revenue less
20	expenses.
21	Q. And it's fair to say Firefly Group
22	was very profitable during the period of time 2013
23	through 2019?
24	A. Through 2019?
25	Q. Yes.

Page 252 1 Yeah, there were some ups and 2 downs but, for the most part, profitable. 3 And from 2020 to the present, it Ο. 4 was very profitable? 5 Again, there's been some ups and Α. 6 downs, but it is profitable, yes. 7 I'm going to look at Defendant's 8 10. You have that in front of you, the Syntego 9 Buyout? 10 Α. The Syntego Buyout, yes. Yes. 11 And, again, the debt owed by the Ο. 12 seller, and the seller was David Erickson, was 13 wiped out by this buy-out agreement, correct? 14 That is correct. 15 And we'll look at Defendant's Ο. 16 Exhibit 24. I hand you this and see if you 17 recognize this as from Brian Hanlon to you, 18 relating to that buy-out. That's Defendant's 24. 19 Α. Uhm-hmm. Little small. 2.0 (Witness reviews document). 21 Ο. You recognize your e-mail address? 22 Α. Yes. 23 You recognize Brian Hanlon's Q. e-mail address? 24 25 Α. Yes.

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1	Q. This is an e-mail chain involving
2	you, BB Advisory and Brian Hanlon?
3	A. Correct.
4	Q. Okay. And you recognize this as
5	an authentic document, correct?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. You had received this back in May
8	of 2024?
9	A. Correct.
10	Q. All right. And you say in this
11	e-mail that there are four parts of the deal. The
12	deal you're referring to is the Syntego Buyout?
13	A. Correct.
14	Q. And this e-mail is after the
15	buy-out, correct?
16	A. Correct.
17	Q. A month or so after the buy-out?
18	A. Correct.
19	Q. And you were trying to figure out
20	how to code this properly?
21	A. Uhm-hmm, yes.
22	Q. Yes? Okay.
23	At page 2 of this, you have "Here is
24	the breakdown." Correct? You see there's a
25	section:

	Page 254
1	"From Dave's perspective, there
2	are four components to the deal."
3	Then, under that:
4	"Here is the breakdown."
5	A. Sorry. Are you looking at page 2:
6	"Based on this I get the
7	following entry for Firefly"?
8	Is that what you're looking for?
9	Q. Okay. Do you have Defense
10	Exhibit 24?
11	A. Oh, sorry, the second page. Okay.
12	Yes, I see that.
13	Q. Okay. So, you and I have never
14	met before, right?
15	A. I have never met you, Bill.
16	Q. I've never asked
17	A. It's been a pleasure.
18	Q you a question before?
19	A. No.
20	Q. We had no time to prepare; is that
21	correct?
22	A. That is correct.
23	Q. We didn't go through questions I'd
24	be asking you?
25	A. No.

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1	Q. In any orderly fashion?
2	A. Yeah.
3	Q. Never met.
4	A. Never met.
5	Q. Never chatted?
6	MS. SCOTT: Objection, asked and
7	answered.
8	THE WITNESS: We met yesterday.
9	BY MR. MAUZY:
10	Q. Here?
11	A. Yeah.
12	Q. But we never had a we've never
13	had the opportunity to talk?
14	A. No.
15	Q. Okay. And you know that I asked
16	your lawyer for the opportunity to meet and
17	interview you?
18	A. Yes.
19	Q. Yeah. And he declined on your
20	behalf?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. Yeah. You met with the government
23	three or four times, by video or in person?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. All right. Looking at page 2,

•
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titled "Forgiveness of Loans." Do you see that?
A. Okay. Could you be a exactly
where is that?
Q. Look at the graph.
A. So here?
Q. Yes.
A. Yes. (Witness reviews document).
Okay.
Q. Does it start off with Lloyd
A. Oh yes, okay.
Q "Forgiveness of Loans"?
A. Yes. Okay, yes.
Q. And the first entry is
"Lloydsville loan to Bannister/Dave," 236,725?
A. Yes.
Q. And refers to Section 2?
A. Yes.
Q. If you look at the Syntego
Purchase Agreement, would you look at Section 2?
A. Yes.
Q. Same number?
A. It is the exact same number.
Q. So you're analyzing the Syntego
Purchase Agreement, correct?
A. Correct.

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1	Q. So it could be coded properly?
2	A. Correct.
3	Q. The next entry is "Repayment of
4	loans from Proceeds of deal From Firefly to
5	Bannister"?
6	A. Correct.
7	Q. And the first entry under that is
8	"Loans," 5,579,570?
9	A. Correct.
10	Q. And that refers to Section 1. If
11	you'd look at Section 1 of the Syntego Purchase
12	Agreement, do you see the same figure?
13	A. I do.
14	Q. The next line is "Less portion of
15	\$8 million declared dividend," that's 1,620,000,
16	correct?
17	A. Correct.
18	Q. And it refers to Section 13 of the
19	Syntego purchase. If you look at Section 13 of the
20	Syntego Purchase Agreement, do you have the same
21	number there?
22	A. Correct.
23	Q. And it says "Less notes forgiven,"
24	3,959,570"?
25	A. Correct.

Page 258 1 And those are notes forgiven by Ο. 2 the dividend of \$8 million that was declared, and 3 there was a deduction for the loans outstanding, 4 correct? 5 Correct. Α. 6 Q. And the net of that was 3,959,570? 7 Α. Uhm-hmm. 8 Q. And that -- and that wiped out 9 Bannister and Erickson's loans to Firefly? 10 Α. That's -- yes. 11 The next line says, "Investments Ο. 12 transferred to Dave." The first line is "Less 13 Amgine sales, " 780,000? 14 Correct. 15 If you look at Section 10 of the 16 Syntego agreement, is the same number reflected 17 there? 18 Α. Yes. 19 Q. The next line is "Vapeshot 20 trademark." The number is 50,000, refers to 21 Section 11. Do you see the same number in the 22 Syntego Buyout? 23 Α. Yes. 24 The next line is entitled Ο. 25 "Consideration," has under it, the first line is

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1	"Payment on closing" of 2,450,000"?
2	A. Correct.
3	Q. Do you see that?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. And under that is a "Note" of
6	2,050,525?
7	A. Correct.
8	Q. Do you see the reference to
9	Section 7 of the Syntego agreement, purchase
10	agreement?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. Same amount there?
13	A. Uhm-hmm.
14	Q. Then there's the "Ijshuis
15	settlement" on the next line of 60,236?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. And if you go to the Syntego
18	agreement in Section 4, you see the same number?
19	A. Correct.
20	Q. Next line is "Promise Hub,"
21	81,000, "To be paid by Firefly to Eidsness Law."
22	Does that refer to Section 5?
23	A. It is Section 5, correct.
24	Q. And Syntego Bay agreement, do you
25	see Section 5; is it the same number?

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		Page 260
1	Α.	Yes.
2	Q.	And the total is 9,668,056?
3	Α.	Correct.
4	Q.	And do you see that number in the
5	Syntego Bay agı	reement?
6	Α.	The purchase price.
7	Q.	So, going through that
8	calculation, co	omes up with a purchase price paid to
9	David Erickson	with the deductions, correct?
10	Α.	Correct.
11	Q.	But that was the purchase price
12	itself?	
13	A.	Correct.
14	Q.	Okay. And based on this, in the
15	next chart, nex	kt page, page 3, based on this, I get
16	the following (entry for Firefly.
17	A.	Yes.
18	Q.	"Firefly Treasury stock" is a
19	debit?	
20	Α.	Yes.
21	Q.	"Investment in Denningshire" of
22	\$3,000?	
23	A.	Correct.
24	Q.	There's a credit for "Loans
25	repaid," 3,959	,570?

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1	A. Correct.		
2	Q. And those were the loans repaid by		
3	David Erickson and Bannister that were deducted		
4	from the purchase price in the Syntego Bay		
5	agreement?		
6	A. Correct.		
7	Q. Same number?		
8	A. Correct.		
9	Q. Also, a credit was "Cash" with		
10	2,450,000?		
11	A. Correct.		
12	Q. And a "Note payable" of 2,050,525		
13	eight?		
14	A. Correct.		
15	Q. 500 I'm sorry, 525.		
16	And "Corporate services" and then		
17	"Donation," correct?		
18	A. Right.		
19	Q. All right. So, based on your		
20	analysis, Syntego purchased 100 percent of		
21	Bannister?		
22	A. Correct.		
23	Q. And you were able, from the		
24	Syntego Bay purchase agreement and your analysis of		
25	that, to make appropriate entries in the books of		

Page 262 Firefly and Rypl? 1 2 Yes, this was our attempt to do Α. I'm not sure if this is the final entry, but 3 4 yes, we did start the process of -- of making an 5 entry. And this e-mail was between you 6 Q. 7 and Brian Hanlon, and BB Advisors participated? 8 Α. Correct, yeah. 9 And in making this calculation, Ο. Dave Erickson played no part in this whatsoever? 10 11 The Defendant wasn't part of this. Α. 12 Ο. Okay. He wasn't part of the 13 preparation of this calculation? 14 No, this was after his exit. 15 Right. And he didn't participate O. 16 in analyzing Syntego Bay, these were your 17 calculations? 18 Correct. 19 Q. And did you in fact code these 20 various entries in the books of Rypl? 21 I'm not sure if this is the final 22 entry. There was some back and forth, just to 23 clarify and just to make sure everything was

Yeah.

Q.

documented.

24

25

Page 263 I believe this was pretty close to 1 2 the final entry, if I remember correctly. 3 You did some fine-tuning, but then 4 you were able to make final entries in the books of 5 Rypl? The entry is in -- in the books of 6 Α. 7 -- of primarily Firefly --8 Q. Okay. 9 -- but, yes. There was some --10 there was some components of different companies 11 involved. 12 Ο. Yes? 13 So the entry would have to be Α. 14 split up a bit. 15 Ο. Okay. 16 Α. But in total this was the 17 objective. 18 Ο. Okay. The objective was to get 19 everything properly recorded in the books of 20 Firefly? 21 Α. Correct. 22 Q. And you believe you accomplished 23 that? 24 Α. Based on the agreement, and based 25 on the wording, and based on the payments, yes.

Page 264 1 I'm going to show you what's been Ο. 2 marked as D-25 and see if you recognize this as an 3 e-mail from Brian Hanlon where you were copied on. 4 Okay. (Witness reviews document). 5 Yes. 6 Q. Do you recognize this as an e-mail 7 that Brian Hanlon wrote to you and BB Advisory in 8 October of 2023? 9 Α. Yes. 10 You recognize the e-mail O. 11 addresses? 12 Α. Yes. 13 So you would have received this Ο. 14 back in October of 2023? 15 In 2023, correct. Α. 16 And BB Advisory, again, is an Q. 17 accounting group that you utilized? 18 Α. Correct. 19 Q. And Brian Hanlon tells them to 20 enter Erickson Rypl transactions from a Tony Excel 21 file into Sage? 22 Α. Yes. 23 Q. So the calculations that we've 24 talked about, after you did your fine-tuning, those 25 were -- directions were given to BB to enter the

Page 265 1 Erickson Rypl transactions from your Excel file? 2 That's what it sounds like, Α. 3 correct. 4 Okay. You had a file that tracked Q. 5 Dave Erickson and Bannister's Rypl transaction, 6 correct? 7 Α. I had a file, an Excel file, yes. 8 Q. And you say: 9 "The hope is Tony and Amanda 10 categorize the transactions between 11 advances, consulting and expenses." 12 Α. Correct. 13 Did you attempt to do that with 14 Erickson and Bannister's transactions with Rypl? 15 Α. Yes. 16 Ο. So if there was a distinction 17 between advances and consulting and expenses, you 18 tracked those, correct? 19 They were tracked, correct. 2.0 Ο. And in this e-mail, October 23rd, 21 David Erickson isn't a part of this conversation? 22 Α. Correct. 23 This is a conversation between Q. 24 you, Brian Hanlon, and the BB accounting folks? 25 Α. Correct.

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	rage 200	
1	Q. And the purpose of this was to	
2	properly record the transactions, correct?	
3	A. Correct. Or, to be more specific,	
4	to properly report on the transactions.	
5	Q. Okay.	
6	A. They were in the general ledgers.	
7	Q. Okay.	
8	A. Yeah.	
9	Q. They'd already been put in the	
10	general ledgers at Rypl?	
11	A. Correct.	
12	Q. You wanted to make sure they're	
13	properly reported?	
14	A. In the the we will go back	
15	to the United Trust file. There was reports in	
16	there and they needed to match which was in what	
17	was in the general ledgers.	
18	Q. Okay. So the purpose was to have	
19	accuracy and consistency between those?	
20	A. Correct, yeah.	
21	Q. Handing you Defendant's	
22	Exhibit 26, two pages.	
23	A. (Witness reviews document).	
24	Q. Do you recognize this e-mail?	
25	A. Yes, I do.	

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1	Q. From you?	
2	A. It is from me.	
3	Q. And who does it go to?	
4	A. That goes to Ashank, who is part	
5	of the BB Advisory Group.	
6	Q. And do you tell him:	
7	"Here is the signed promissory	
8	note for [] \$2,050,525.00"?	
9	A. Correct.	
10	Q. "and the payment schedule"?	
11	A. Correct.	
12	Q. You say you will be issuing	
13	monthly payments directly to Dave at the end of the	
14	month?	
15	A. Correct.	
16	Q. And BB Advisory did the	
17	bookkeeping for you?	
18	A. They would enter the payables, so	
19	they do the clerical part of it.	
20	Q. And when you say, "We will be	
21	issuing the monthly payments directly to Dave,"	
22	you're speaking on behalf of Firefly, correct?	
23	A. Correct. Firefly will be issuing	
24	the payments to Dave.	
25	Q. That would be Firefly's money?	

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1	A. Correct.	
2	Q. And the partners at Firefly knew,	
3	based on the Syntego Buyout, that he was going to	
4	receive this amount?	
5	MS. SCOTT: Objection, foundation,	
6	calls for speculation.	
7	THE WITNESS: Yes, they did.	
8	BY MR. MAUZY:	
9	Q. And Erickson's interest in Firefly	
10	was fully bought out by Firefly in that Syntego	
11	agreement?	
12	A. That's my understanding.	
13	Q. And he received a lump sum of	
14	2.5 million and a promissory note?	
15	A. Yes.	
16	Q. Firefly knew that Erickson had	
17	loans, correct?	
18	A. Correct.	
19	Q. And knew that he paid those loans	
20	back in the Syntego agreement?	
21	A. The Syntego agreement was was	
22	there's a payback on the outstanding loans,	
23	correct.	
24	Q. And attached to that e-mail is the	
25	promissory note?	

Page 269 1 Correct, as a supporting document. 2 Q. And that's signed by Greg Elias on behalf of Firefly and Syntego Bay? 3 4 Α. That is direct. Sorry not "Bay," Syntego BV? 5 6 Α. Correct. 7 Q. Correct? He was authorized to 8 speak on behalf of Firefly, that is, Greg Elias? 9 Α. Correct. 10 And for Greg Elias to speak on Ο. 11 behalf of the Firefly Group, that means that the 12 majority of the partners must have agreed to that 13 buy-out? 14 MS. SCOTT: Objection, calls for 15 speculation. 16 THE WITNESS: That would be my 17 understanding. 18 BY MR. MAUZY: 19 Ο. I'm going to show you a document 2.0 that's marked as Defendant's Exhibit 27. It's from you to Ashank, copying Brian -- Hanlon, I take 21 22 it -- relating to the fully executed promissory 2.3 I ask that you review that and see if you are familiar with that. 24 25 (Witness reviews document). Α.

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Q. Did you receive this?
A. I've I sent that e-mail on
Q. Yeah, I'm sorry.
A. Okay. I sent the
Q. You sent the e-mail?
A. Correct. On April 25th, 2024.
Q. You recognize this as an e-mail
that you sent?
A. Yes.
Q. And this is an authentic copy of
the e-mail that you sent, right?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. On April 26th, 20
Interruption in the proceedings
MR. MAUZY: What was that?
MS. SCOTT: I don't know.
THE WITNESS: It says
MS. SCOTT: It's saying your phone
isn't ready?
THE WITNESS: It says failed to detect
your speaker.
MS. SCOTT: Shall we take a
Mr. Court Reporter, can we please take a brief
recess?
THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the

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1	record at 10:30 a.m.
2	MR. MAUZY: All right, is there problem
3	with the video recording?
4	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: No, I'm fine.
5	RECESS TAKEN AT 10:30 A.M
6	UPON RESUMING AT 10:41 A.M
7	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is Volume 2A,
8	unit two, of the video recorded deposition of
9	Antonio Severin. We're back on the record at
10	10:41 a.m.
11	Go ahead, Counsel.
12	BY MR. MAUZY:
13	Q. We were looking at Defendant's
14	Exhibit 27. This is your e-mail to the BB Advisory
15	folks?
16	A. Correct.
17	Q. And do you say, "Please have the
18	payments recorded properly"?
19	A. "Please have this coded
20	correctly."
21	Q. "Correctly," I'm sorry.
22	Do you say: "Please have this coded
23	correctly"?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. Okay. And you're talking about

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payments that are paid directly to Dave on the	
promissory note?	
A. Correct.	
Q. Where you were keeping an accurate	
record of how these payments were coded?	
A. Yes.	
Q. I'm handing you Defendant's	
Exhibit 28 and ask you if you recognize this as an	
e-mail to you from Brian Hanlon.	
A. Yes.	
Q. Do you recognize Brian Hanlon's	
e-mail address?	
A. Yes.	
Q. Your e-mail address?	
A. Yes.	
Q. Did you receive this approximately	
in well, did you receive this June 14th, 2023?	
A. Yes.	
Q. And you believe this to be	
authentic?	
A. Yes.	
Q. There's a reference to:	
"Using the Dashboard and the	
Paginated report you should be able	
to report summary and detail to the	

Page 273 1 partners." 2 What's the dashboard? 3 So the dashboard would have been Α. 4 basically the folder of all the quote-unquote "paginated reports," as we've referred them -- to 5 them, the listing. 6 7 What's the paginated report? 8 Α. That would have been the 9 individual reports we did per our -- yeah, the 10 individual reports we would do per shareholder. 11 Okay. So each shareholder had a Ο. 12 report? 13 Α. Correct. 14 And you say using the dashboard 15 and those individual reports, you should be able to 16 report summary and detail to the partners? 17 Α. Correct. 18 Ο. So the money going out to the 19 partners would be reported to the other partners, 2.0 correct? 21 That was the intention, correct. Α. 22 That was the purpose. 2.3 That's the purpose. Q. 24 So United Trust, the dashboard, kept 25 track of all of the transactions with David

Page 274 Erickson and Bannister? 1 2 Α. To be just more precise, these 3 paginated reports were from the general ledger. 4 They were just in a format where they would be able 5 to grab all the payments for the vendors, the 6 specific vendors. In this case, the shareholders. 7 Okay. So all the shareholders 8 could see all the payments going to other shareholders? 9 10 Α. No. No, there would be one who 11 would build a report individually. 12 Ο. Okay. 13 Α. Yeah. 14 One report to each individual? Ο. 15 That was the purpose, yeah. Α. 16 Could other shareholders see what Ο. 17 other shareholders were receiving? 18 Not if I -- not -- not from this, 19 no, not from this. 2.0 Ο. How would they see that? 21 Α. Well, they would be just from the 22 general ledgers. 2.3 Okay. So the general ledgers Q. could be reviewed and it would show the amount of 24

who -- of advances going to shareholders?

25

	Page 275	
1	A. All payments going to	
2	shareholders, correct.	
3	Q. And loans going to the	
4	shareholders?	
5	A. Correct, yes.	
6	Q. So any shareholder could look and	
7	see the amount of payments going to David Erickson?	
8	A. If if they asked me for that,	
9	yes, yes.	
10	Q. If they could, you would provide	
11	that?	
12	A. I would provide that to the Board	
13	members, to the Board, yeah.	
14	Q. And you certainly do?	
15	A. If I	
16	Q. You knew the payments going to	
17	Dave Erickson?	
18	A. We tracked the payments going to,	
19	correct.	
20	Q. So you knew the payments going to	
21	David?	
22	A. We knew the payments, correct.	
23	Q. You had a running total of the	
24	payments going to Dave?	
25	A. The report would have a running	

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1	total of the payments, correct.	
2	EXHIBIT NO. 53: E-mail from Dave	
3	Erickson to Simon Dowson, Mark Quirk,	
4	(USAProd-00544843).	
5	BY MR. MAUZY:	
6	Q. I hand you Defendant's 53, an	
7	e-mail from Dave Erickson to Simon Dowson, Mark	
8	Quirk, Poy Thompson, and copied to you. The	
9	subject is "New Controller."	
10	A. Yes.	
11	Q. Do you recognize that e-mail?	
12	A. I do.	
13	Q. You would have received a copy of	
14	the e-mail at the time?	
15	A. I was c.c.'d on this e-mail,	
16	correct.	
17	Q. Okay. So you received that,	
18	reviewed it?	
19	A. At the time yeah. I had just	
20	started at that point.	
21	Q. Okay. And it's an authentic	
22	document, correct?	
23	A. Correct.	
24	Q. All right. And this reflects that	
25	you became the controller as of September 19th,	

	Timonio severiii 171ay 16, 2026	
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1	2013?	
2	A. It was around that time, correct.	
3	Q. So, during the period of time 2013	
4	- 2019, you were in charge of accounting for Rypl's	
5	books?	
6	A. Correct.	
7	Q. And in this capacity, you also	
8	oversaw the money that the Firefly Group made from	
9	the Cam4 site?	
10	A. Correct.	
11	Q. And you were responsible for	
12	keeping track of that money?	
13	A. I would report on it and make sure	
14	that it flowed properly, correct.	
15	Q. And you were in charge of keeping	
16	track of any payments to the shareholders?	
17	A. We would enter the all	
18	payments, including the shareholder payments, in	
19	the general ledgers.	
20	Q. I'm going to look at Defendant's	
21	Exhibit 52. Be careful, it has three pages. Ask	
22	you if this is an e-mail from Dave Erickson to Tony	
23	Severin, to you, and copying Chad?	
24	A. Yes.	
25	Q. Do you recognize this document?	

		Page 278	
1	1 A. I do.		
2	Q. Do you recognize the e	-mail	
3	3 addresses?	addresses?	
4	A. I do.		
5	Q. This is, in fact, an e	-mail that	
6	6 you wrote?	you wrote?	
7	7 A. The initial e-mail, I	wrote,	
8	8 correct.		
9	9 Q. Right. And you recogn	ize this as	
10	an authentic copy, right?		
11	A. Yes.		
12	Q. Okay. And you're desc	ribing a	
13	transition plan?		
14	A. Correct.		
15	Q. You're expecting to re	sign?	
16	A. I had issued a resigna	tion letter,	
17	17 correct.		
18	Q. And in the course of t	his e-mail,	
19	you describe your job, do you not?		
20	A. Yes.		
21	Q. What do you say your d	uties are?	
22	A. "Current responsibilit	ies,	
23	The duties of the current r	ole has	
24	evolved over the last 6 yea	rs since	
25	I started with Rypl.com. T	here	

	Page 279
1	really was no Job Description
2	provided when I started so part of
3	this transition process now could
4	be" "now would be to come up with
5	a job description."
6	"The current role is really a
7	combination of corporate
8	controller"
9	You want me to read the whole thing
10	or?
11	Q. Well, do you describe what you did
12	as an accountant?
13	A. Okay.
14	"The current role is really a
15	combination of corporate controller
16	(dealing with internal accounting
17	matters) and CFO (dealing with
18	external stakeholders, like banks,
19	tax authorities, lawyers).
20	Therefore my current title of
21	Director of Finance seems to be a
22	right fit fit the role properly
23	for me although you might want to
24	replace the role with 2 people, one
25	to concentrate on the internal

Page 280 accounting and one to concentrate on 1 2 the external stakeholder needs." 3 In this e-mail, do you describe Ο. 4 your responsibilities as including "Direct Supervision of all accounting and finance 5 functions"? 6 7 Α. Yes. 8 Q. You describe part of your 9 responsibilities as "Supervision over the 10 preparation of annual budgets"? 11 Α. Correct. 12 And part of your responsibilities O. 13 are to "implement and maintain the corporate 14 structure including making sure signed agreements 15 are in place that produce adequate cash flow for the various global entities"? 16 17 Α. Correct. 18 Ο. Part of your responsibilities was to manage the various tax audits? 19 2.0 Α. Correct. And you were, at this point in 21 22 your career, considering a resignation, correct? 2.3 Α. Correct. 24 And one reason for that decision Ο. 25 was because of the constant banking problems,

	Page 281
1	correct?
2	A. It was, yeah, the complexity dealt
3	with a number of issues, primarily banking.
4	Q. Banking was the big problem,
5	correct?
6	A. The ability to move money around
7	through banks, yes.
8	Q. Yeah. And it's hard work?
9	A. It was complicated and
10	frustrating.
11	Q. Did you find it to be stressful
12	working with banks?
13	A. Yes.
14	Q. And you had to have a relationship
15	with banks in order to stay in business with
16	Firefly, correct?
17	A. Correct.
18	Q. If you didn't have a banking
19	relationship, then the business would collapse?
20	A. If people were not being paid,
21	yes, there would not be a business.
22	Q. And that was very stressful for
23	you to deal with the banks?
24	A. It was stressful.
25	Q. And that was a persistent problem,

Page 282 1 dealing with the banks? 2 Yes, constant. Α. 3 Ο. And in response to this letter, 4 did David Erickson fly to Toronto? 5 Yes, he did. Α. And he did that because he wanted 6 Q. 7 you to stay on the job? 8 Α. That is correct. 9 He told you that he trusted you? Ο. 10 Α. That is correct, yes. And he said he thought you did 11 Ο. 12 excellent work? 13 If I remember correctly, yes. Α. 14 Ο. Yeah. And he encouraged you to 15 stay in your role? 16 Α. Correct. 17 And you kept your position at Rypl 18 after that conversation? 19 Α. I thought about it and thought 20 about it over the weekend, and yes, he had -- I do 21 remember him saying that we could make this into a 22 win-win-win situation, that -- that I should look 2.3 for some help and deal with some of the 24 frustrations that way. 25 Okay. And you decided to stay on? Q.

		Page 283
1	A. Correct	
2	Q. Get mor	e assistance?
3	A. Correct	
4	Q. To make	things a little less
5	stressful for you?	
6	A. Correct	•
7	Q. In your	role at Rypl, you managed
8	the finance team?	
9	A. Correct	
10	Q. You man	aged the company books?
11	A. Correct	•
12	Q. You man	aged the ledgers?
13	A. Correct	
14	Q. You kee	p track of how much money
15	came in and how much mon	ey went out?
16	A. Correct	
17	Q. You tra	ck where that money comes
18	from and where it goes?	
19	A. Correct	
20	Q. And you	do this so the company's
21	owners can see this flow	, correct?
22	A. Correct	
23	Q. They ca	n know how the company is
24	making and spending mone	Ϋ́?
25	A. Correct	
	T. Control of the con	

Page 284 1 Ο. Isn't it true the partners would 2 be less concerned about their own costs, that is 3 how much they were receiving? 4 MS. SCOTT: Objection, calls for 5 speculation. 6 THE WITNESS: I don't understand the 7 question. 8 BY MR. MAUZY: 9 Well, they were concerned to see Ο. how the -- how the company was doing, right? 10 11 Α. Oh, yes, yes. 12 So -- and the partner costs are Ο. 13 not part of the actual operating costs? 14 In the reporting that we did, we 15 would include the consulting portion of the partner 16 costs, correct. 17 Is that a below-the-line expense 0. 18 term? 19 Α. Well, we would consider it part of 20 the operating expenses. Yeah. And that was reflected, 21 Ο. 22 correct? 23 That was shown separately, Α. 24 correct. 25 And shareholders had access to Q.

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that information?
A. They would be sent to what was
referred to as the MOM report on a monthly basis,
yes.
Q. Did you spend time with David van
der Poel?
A. We would talk.
Q. He was a shareholder?
A. He is a shareholder.
Q. Does did he live in Toronto for
a period of time?
A. He yes.
Q. Did he come to your office
regularly?
A. Yeah, he had an office in the
same
Q. Same building?
A. Same building, yes.
Q. And you saw him frequently?
A. Yes.
Q. And you had the ability to talk to
Mr. van der Poel?
A. Yes.
Q. And you knew he was a shareholder?
A. Yes.

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1	Q. And he knew you were the
2	controller of Rypl?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. And you had a close relationship
5	with him?
6	A. Fairly close, yes.
7	Q. And David Erickson, would you
8	describe as the spokesperson for the majority
9	shareholders in dealings with you?
10	A. No, it was mainly Dave Erickson.
11	Q. Dave Erickson?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. Okay. He was the primary
14	spokesperson?
15	A. Mr. Erickson?
16	Q. Yeah.
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. Okay. You also spoke to David van
19	der Poel?
20	A. Correct. He was also in the
21	office.
22	Q. What about Rodenburg?
23	A. Never in the office, no.
24	Q. Never in the office.
25	But van der Poel was actually in your

Page 287 1 office and you talked to him regularly? 2 He was mainly marketing. Α. would talk, but not as often as with Mr. Erickson. 3 4 And you believe -- well, there were regular meetings of the shareholders, right? 5 6 Α. They would have meetings, yes. 7 Ο. Yeah. And you believe he was 8 authorized to speak on behalf of other 9 shareholders? 10 Α. The shareholder group, yes. 11 I want to talk about a stock Ο. 12 register, company stock registers for a moment. 13 Α. Yes. 14 A stock register describes the 15 shareholders that currently own stock in a company; is that correct? 16 17 Α. That is correct. 18 Ο. Disclosure of the registered 19 shareholder amounts are often important to get a 2.0 bank account? 21 Α. Correct. 22 Ο. Banks like to know who the 2.3 ultimate beneficial owner of an organization is? 24 Α. They need to know. 25 So banks need to know who they're Q.

Page 288 1 dealing with? 2 Yeah. That's considered KYC, Α. 3 "Know Your Client." 4 Q. And you're in charge of this 5 process of giving the --6 Α. I was --7 -- shareholder registers to them? 8 Α. Yes, I would typically be the 9 point person with the banks. 10 With the banks. And you'd be Ο. 11 responsible for getting the stock registers to 12 them? 13 Α. Correct. 14 And that was important to be able Ο. to do business with banks? 15 16 It was a requirement. 17 And you were always accurate when O. 18 you reported the stock register to the banks; is 19 that correct? 2.0 We would provide the most current Α. 21 share register to the bank. Did that disclose the name of 22 Ο. 23 Erickson? 24 Α. Sorry? On the stock -- what would be on 25 Q.

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1 the stock register? 2 Α. It would be -- let's say if it's 3 for Firefly, Firefly Lane Corporation NV, the share 4 register would list at that time the eight 5 shareholders, so Bannister, the Prism Trust, 10Q21, 6 etcetera. 7 Ο. And all of those shareholders 8 would be listed on the register, and you would give 9 that register to the banks when you were dealing 10 with banks; is that correct? 11 Α. Correct. 12 Is it true sometimes the Ο. 13 shareholders would be concerned about having their 14 names associated with the adult entertainment 15 industry? 16 MS. SCOTT: Objection, calls for 17 speculation. 18 THE WITNESS: I assume so, yes. 19 BY MR. MAUZY: 2.0 I'm going to show you Defendant's Ο. 21 Exhibit 38. Is this an e-mail from you to 22 Charlotte Janssen and Dave Erickson and Spencer 2.3 York? 24 Α. Yes. 25 You recognize this as an authentic Q.

Page 290
e-mail that you sent out?
A. Yes.
Q. And kept in the records of Rypl?
A. Yes.
Q. And is this an example of the type
of disclosure that you would make?
A. Yes.
Q. And do you disclose the directors
as Gregory Elias?
A. Correct.
Q. Do you disclose the
UBO shareholders with over ten percent as David van
der Poel, David Erickson, Richard Burry, Toine
Rodenburg?
A. Correct.
Q. And you identify the authorized
signatories?
A. Correct.
Q. And those are Tony, that's you?
A. Correct.
Q. And Amanda Zimmerman?
A. Correct.
Q. All right. David Erickson wasn't
an authorized signatory, correct?
A. That is correct.

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1	[Reporter intervened for clarification
2	purposes]
3	THE WITNESS: Was not.
4	BY MR. MAUZY:
5	Q. Charlotte Janssen is the lawyer
6	for Rypl?
7	A. She is.
8	Q. And she was involved in this
9	process of disclosure?
10	A. She was.
11	Q. I'm going to show you Defense
12	Exhibit 39 and ask you if you recognize that as an
13	e-mail from you to Richard Burry, copying Dave
14	Erickson, relating to the Alexandria bank account.
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. You would have written this
17	document?
18	A. I that this is my e-mail?
19	Q. Yeah, you recognize it as
20	authentic, correct?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. And you say, "Hi Richard." This
23	is Richard Burry?
24	A. Richard Burry, yes.
25	Q. Now, what is the purpose of the

Page 292

e-mail to Richard?

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A. (Witness reviews document).

This was to gather documents in regards to the holding -- Richard's holding company, which is called SmartVu. So SmartVu owned shares of not only Firefly but also Surecom. And this was a -- we knew him to be re-incorporating SmartVu from Curacao to Malta, so I was requesting those documents to provide to the bank.

- Q. And you say on the first page to Richard, once his new company is incorporated in Malta, we need Gregory -- that's Gregory Elias?
 - A. Correct.
- Q. You need to have Gregory change the ownership of the SmartVu Curacao shares in Surecom and Firefly to the new company?
- A. To the new company that would be incorporated in Malta.
- Q. And it was important to you to make sure the bank had that information?
- A. It was important to me to have accurate share register, correct.
 - Q. And this is part of that process?
 - A. Correct.
 - Q. And do you tell Richard:

	Page 293
1	"Let me know when you have the
2	new company's information and I will
3	forward to Gregory to make the
4	changes to keep the share register
5	accurate"? [As read]
6	A. Correct.
7	Q. Is it fair to say that Greg Elias
8	will always be the one who has the most accurate
9	version of the company register?
10	MS. SCOTT: Objection, calls for
11	speculation, lack of foundation.
12	THE WITNESS: That's who I would go for
13	the most accurate
14	BY MR. MAUZY:
15	Q. And because of a change process,
16	we see in Exhibit 39 changing the name of the
17	company in the incorporation; he needs to know
18	that, correct?
19	A. Yes. The shareholder register
20	would have to be updated.
21	Q. All right. And that was important
22	for you, to make sure that shareholder register was
23	correct and updated?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. Now, is it fair to say that

Page 294 1 Firefly pays Rypl to handle its money and its 2 accounting functions? 3 Α. Yes. 4 Q. Firefly pays Rypl 10 percent of all expenses paid by Rypl on behalf of Firefly? 5 6 Α. Yes. 7 Q. Chad Moldon is the CEO of Rypl? 8 Α. He is the President of Rypl. 9 And he's also one of the Ο. 10 shareholders at Firefly? 11 Α. Correct. 12 You report to Chad Moldon as -- in Ο. 13 his capacity as President; is that correct? 14 Correct. 15 The other shareholders are David O. 16 van der Poel, Toine Rodenburg, David Erickson, 17 Richard Burry, Paul Eidsness and Ryan Maule and 18 Kevin Krieq? 19 Α. The Firefly Lane Corporation NV 20 shareholders, correct, you listed. 21 And these shareholders live all 22 over the world? 23 They live in various places, Α. 24 correct. 25 Not simply in Toronto, but all Q.

	Page 295
1	over the world?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Okay. And isn't it true that each
4	place that these shareholders live, that place,
5	that country, has different tax laws?
6	MS. SCOTT: Objection, lack of
7	foundation.
8	THE WITNESS: Yes.
9	BY MR. MAUZY:
10	Q. And those countries have a
11	different treatment of income?
12	MS. SCOTT: Objection, lack of
13	foundation, calls for a legal conclusion.
14	BY MR. MAUZY:
15	Q. Go ahead.
16	A. I would assume, yes.
17	Q. You aren't a shareholder of
18	Firefly?
19	A. No.
20	Q. You didn't make any administrative
21	decisions on behalf of Firefly at Firefly?
22	A. Administrative decisions, there
23	might have been some decisions I would have made on
24	behalf of Firefly.
25	Q. What kind of decisions would you

Page 296

	1 age 250
1	make on behalf of Firefly?
2	A. Basically, we did hire somebody
3	for Firefly to do the clerical work. So I would
4	have advised her on some things, as far as, I think
5	the we have a little office there, office
6	supplies, you know, payroll. So there's some
7	some there would have been some decisions, some
8	small decisions, that I would have probably done.
9	Q. You're not a shareholder of
10	Firefly?
11	A. No.
12	Q. You did not make compensation
13	decisions at Firefly?
14	A. No.
15	Q. You attended some of the annual
16	meetings but not all of the annual meetings?
17	A. Just a couple.
18	Q. In your years at Rypl, how many
19	annual meetings did you attend?
20	A. I remember two.
21	Q. Okay. Were they in fact annual
22	meetings, that is, once a year?
23	A. For the most part, they I
24	believe they were once a year, yes.
25	Q. Are you familiar with the term

	Page 297
1	"old man meetings"?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Did these happen every month?
4	A. They did.
5	Q. Who attended them?
6	A. My understanding was it was Chad
7	Moldon, David Erickson, David van der Poel, I
8	believe Richard Burry; and then maybe Toine
9	Rodenburg, I don't know.
10	Q. Did you attend?
11	A. I attended just a few, very few.
12	Again, I remember maybe two or three months, maybe.
13	Q. Two or three
14	A. Months.
15	Q times?
16	A. Yeah.
17	Q. Total, the entire time you were
18	at
19	A. Exactly, not not many.
20	Q. If Toine Rodenburg asked you to
21	make a payment to him, would you make the payment?
22	A. If it was if it was approved by
23	Mr. Erickson.
24	Q. And if David Erickson said he
25	wanted a loan, he would receive a loan?

	Page 298
1	A. We would send the money, correct.
2	Q. And the loan, then, was owed to
3	Firefly?
4	A. During this time, the money would
5	come from Rypl and on behalf of Firefly, correct.
6	Q. And it's Firefly's money?
7	A. Eventually, correct.
8	Q. All right. It was not Rypl's
9	money?
10	A. Correct.
11	Q. The loan taken out was owed to
12	Firefly?
13	A. I've never seen any loan
14	documents, so I don't know.
15	Q. And you trusted David Erickson to
16	only take out money approved by other shareholders?
17	A. My understanding was this was part
18	of the Board, and he was the financial guy on the
19	Board, so my understanding was that these are Board
20	these are okayed by the Board.
21	Q. And the Board would meet
22	regularly, and they and they'd also talk among
23	themselves?
24	MS. SCOTT: Objection, lack of
25	foundation, calls for speculation.

Page 299 1 THE WITNESS: That was my 2 understanding. 3 BY MR. MAUZY: 4 And they received your reports so 5 they could see how much money was coming in and how 6 much money was going out? 7 MS. SCOTT: Objection, lack of 8 foundation, calls for speculation. 9 THE WITNESS: Yes, I would send what we 10 call the MOM report, which is basically financial statements, once a month. 11 12 BY MR. MAUZY: 13 You sent the reports to the 14 shareholders once a month? 15 Correct. 16 Okay. The four majority O. 17 shareholders, the -- David van der Poel, David 18 Erickson, Toine Rodenburg, Richard Burry, did you 19 regard those as the founders? 2.0 I would regard the founders as Α. 21 Mr. Erickson, Mr. Van der Poel, and Mr. Rodenburg. 22 0. Because they had been involved in 23 the company the longest? 24 As far as I know, yes. Α. 25 Q. And that group constituted the

Page 300 1 majority of the shareholders? 2 They would be 60 percent of the Α. shareholder -- the shareholdings. 3 4 So those four shareholders could 5 dictate what happens at Firefly? 6 I assume the three of them could Α. 7 have done it, yes. 8 You need three with the majority of the shareholders could make decisions on behalf 9 of Firefly? 10 11 That was my understanding. Α. 12 You had signature authority on all Ο. 13 of the bank accounts for Rypl? 14 I don't -- the Rypl one was a TD. 15 I don't believe I have signature authority, I 16 didn't have -- as far as issuing a payment, but I 17 do have viewing authority, and I do have 18 administrative authority. 19 O. For which one? 2.0 For the TD Bank at Rypl. Α. 21 Ο. At Rypl, okay. 22 Α. Yeah, right. 23 Which banks did you have signature Q. 24 authority? 25 I think the Granity ones. Α.

Page 301 director, I would have signature authority over the 1 2 Granity Irish ones. 3 Okay. Did Amanda Zimmerman have Ο. 4 signature authority? She did, yes. 5 Α. At Toronto-Dominion? TD is 6 Ο. 7 Toronto-Dominion? 8 Α. Correct, yes. 9 David Erickson did not have Ο. signature authority at the Toronto-Dominion? 10 11 No. Although I believe he was on Α. 12 the account initially. I'm not a hundred percent sure if that still exists. 13 14 Early on? Ο. 15 Early on. When the -- when the 16 account was set up in 2012, if I remember. 17 During the period of time 2013 -Ο. 18 2019, he did not have signature authority? 19 I'm not sure. I don't know. Α. 20 don't know when that was changed. Okay. At some point it was 21 Ο. 22 changed and he --23 Α. Yes. 24 -- did not have signature Ο. 25 authority?

		Page 302
1	1 A. Correct.	
2	Q. And that was ear	ly on in your
3	3 tenure?	
4	A. I believe so, ye	S.
5	Q. You started in 2	013?
6	A. I did, yes.	
7	7 Q. So, shortly after	r you started, he
8	8 no longer had signature authority	?
9	9 A. I believe there	was some change at
10	the bank so And, yes, he did:	n't have it.
11	Q. Did Amanda Zimme:	rman have access
12	to the portal used to transfer mo	ney held at United
13	International Bank?	
14	A. She did.	
15	Q. And David Ericks	on did you have
16	access to the portal used to trans	sfer money at
17	United International Bank?	
18	A. I do not have my	own access, no.
19	Q. Amanda Zimmerman	did?
20	A. Yes.	
21	Q. David Erickson d	id not?
22	A. Not that I know	of.
23	Q. I'm handing you	Defendant's
24	Exhibit 13.	
25	Did Dave Erickson req	uest so-called

	Page 303
1	one-off loans?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Looking at Defendant's 13, is this
4	an e-mail from Dave Erickson to Amanda Zimmerman,
5	copying you?
6	A. Correct.
7	Q. And this is a subject is, "Loan
8	to Halstead"?
9	A. "Loan to Halstead," correct.
10	Q. You recognize this as an e-mail
11	that you would have received?
12	A. Correct.
13	Q. All right.
14	MR. BOURGET: Sorry to interrupt. I
15	think you identified this as Government's 13. It
16	is Defense 13.
17	MR. MAUZY: I think it's Defendant's
18	13. It may also be your exhibit, it might be
19	duplicate.
20	BY MR. MAUZY:
21	Q. This is an e-mail from Dave
22	Erickson to Amanda Zimmerman, copying you, correct?
23	A. Correct.
24	Q. And you recognize this as an
25	e-mail that you would have received?

	Page 304
1	A. Yes.
2	Q. And it indicates that Halstead
3	needs a loan in the amount of 15,000?
4	A. Correct.
5	Q. Okay. And he would have received
6	a loan of 15,000?
7	A. And he would have been sent
8	Halstead Bay would have been sent, yes.
9	Q. Halstead Bay?
10	A. Halstead Bay would have been sent
11	15,000.
12	Q. All right. So he's requesting a
13	loan to Halstead, and Halstead received a loan in
14	the amount of 15,000?
15	A. They received 15,000, correct.
16	Q. And this is a loan, right?
17	A. He he states it as a loan.
18	Q. And you record it at Rypl as a
19	loan?
20	A. Correct.
21	Q. And it was Firefly
22	A. Yes.
23	Q money ultimately?
24	A. Ultimately, it was Firefly's
25	responsibility, correct.

	Page 305
1	Q. The payment is facilitated by
2	Rypl, but it's actually Firefly's money?
3	A. Correct.
4	Q. Is it fair to say that you and
5	Amanda would decide how to send them the money?
6	A. I'm not sure if that's a fair
7	characterization. We would send them the money.
8	Q. Yeah.
9	A. Amanda would send the money.
10	Q. Okay.
11	A. Yeah.
12	Q. Yeah. From she would decide
13	which bank account?
14	A. Well, we only had the one.
15	Q. Yeah.
16	A. So this would have been from Rypl,
17	so it would have come from the TD USD account.
18	Q. Right. You only had one account?
19	A. Correct.
20	EXHIBIT NO. D-14: E-mail from
21	D. Erickson to A. Zimmerman, T.
22	Severin, et al, dated May 3, 2018, "Loan".
23	BY MR. MAUZY:
24	Q. I'm going to hand you Defendant's
25	Exhibit 14 and ask you if you recognize that as an

		Page 306
1	e-mail from Dave	e Erickson to you.
2	Α.	To Amanda and myself.
3	Q.	And you, yeah.
4	Α.	Correct.
5	Q.	Subject is a "Loan"?
6	Α.	Yes.
7	Q.	And, again, this would be a loan
8	to Halstead?	
9	Α.	Correct.
10	Q.	Requesting 75,000?
11	Α.	That is correct.
12	Q.	And he does not say in this e-mail
13	what bank accoun	nt to send money from; isn't that
14	correct?	
15	Α.	He does not.
16	Q.	And this loan is being made on
17	behalf of Firef	ly?
18	Α.	Correct.
19	Q.	And it's going to a shareholder of
20	Firefly?	
21	Α.	Halstead's not a shareholder of
22	Firefly, but ye	5.
23	Q.	Okay. All right. Dave Erickson
24	is, through Banı	nister, correct?
25	Α.	Correct.
	I .	

Page 307 1 So ultimately it's going to a Ο. 2 shareholder of Firefly? 3 Correct, that's how we would have 4 code it. You would have coded it as a loan 5 Ο. 6 to a shareholder? 7 Α. Correct. 8 Okay. We're going to put this one 9 on the screen. Do you recognize this as an e-mail 10 from Dave Erickson to Amanda and you, subject 11 "Loan"? 12 MS. SCOTT: Mr. Mauzy, what exhibit number is this? 13 14 MR. MAUZY: D-15. EXHIBIT NO. D-15: E-mail from D. 15 16 Erickson to A. Zimmerman, et al, dated 17 March 7, 2017, Re: Loan. 18 BY MR. MAUZY: On the screen is Defendant's 19 20 Exhibit 15. Is this an e-mail from Dave Erickson 21 to Amanda and you, referencing a loan? 22 Α. Yes. 23 And, again, this is a loan of Q. 50,000 to Halstead Bay? 24 25 Α. Yes.

	Page 308
1	Q. And it uses the word "loan" twice?
2	A. "Loan" is used as the subject and
3	also in the
4	Q. Correct.
5	A in the body.
6	Q. And you agree that this is a loan?
7	A. Well, I don't I didn't receive
8	a loan document but per this e-mail, it's going to
9	be coded as a loan.
10	Q. It was coded as a loan?
11	A. Correct.
12	Q. He's not telling you which bank
13	account to send money from, correct?
14	A. Well, there's only the one bank
15	account to send it from.
16	Q. And he's not telling you?
17	A. He did not tell us which one, no.
18	[Reporter intervened for clarification
19	purposes]
20	THE WITNESS: He did not tell us which
21	one which bank to send it from.
22	BY MR. MAUZY:
23	Q. And this is a loan being made on
24	behalf of Firefly?
25	A. Correct.

	Page 309
1	Q. And going ultimately to a
2	shareholder of Firefly?
3	A. Correct.
4	Q. And this payment is facilitated by
5	Rypl, but it's Firefly's money?
6	A. Correct.
7	EXHIBIT NO. D-16: E-mail from
8	D. Erickson to T. Severin, et al
9	dated October 10, 2019 Re: Advance for
10	Legal Costs.
11	BY MR. MAUZY:
12	Q. Defendant's Exhibit 16. I hand
13	you the document and see if you recognize it as an
14	e-mail from Dave Erickson to you and Amanda.
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. You would have received this back
17	in October 10th, 2019?
18	A. Yes.
19	Q. You recognize this as authentic?
20	A. Correct.
21	Q. Is this a request for a \$10,000
22	advance to Halstead?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. And the subject matter is "Advance
25	for Legal Costs"?

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A. Yes.
Q. Is this advance put on the books
of Rypl?
A. No. This would also have been for
Firefly, on behalf of Firefly.
Q. Yeah. The payment is made on
behalf of Firefly?
A. Correct.
Q. But you would have a record of
that at Rypl?
A. Correct.
Q. Right. And there would be a
record of that ultimately at Firefly as well?
A. Correct.
Q. Okay. They were informed at all
times of any payments that were made?
A. They would know, yes.
Q. Any payments to shareholders at
any time were recorded by Firefly?
A. Yeah, yes.
Q. Okay. And this money that was
transferred was ultimately Firefly's money,
correct?
A. Correct.
EXHIBIT NO. D-17: E-mail from D.

	Page 311
1	Erickson to A. Zimmerman, et al, dated
2	February 25, 2018, Re: Amex.
3	BY MR. MAUZY:
4	Q. I show you Defendant's Exhibit 17
5	and ask you if you recognize this as an e-mail from
6	Dave to Amanda and you, regarding Amex, dated
7	February 25th, 2018.
8	A. (Witness reviews document). Yes.
9	Q. Is this an authentic copy of an
10	e-mail you would have received?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. Does he ask you to please send
13	another 25,000 as a loan?
14	A. Yes. He asks Amanda to send it,
15	and he cc's me on the request.
16	Q. Does this relate to Amex?
17	A. We would not have related it to
18	Amex.
19	Q. At the bottom of the page, does it
20	say: "Dave Erickson":
21	"Hi! Maybe this got lost, but
22	it's overdue. Can you please send
23	it"
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. And in the subject line, does it

	Page 312
1	say, "Re: Amex"?
2	A. The subject line says, yes, "Re:
3	Amex."
4	Q. And would you pay Amex bills on
5	behalf of that David Erickson incurred?
6	A. Yes. I don't believe that's what
7	this is, but I think that the subject line doesn't
8	match with the body of the e-mail.
9	Q. Was it a request for another
10	25,000 as a loan after the Amex was paid off?
11	A. It was I think they just used
12	the same thread, and so
13	Q. Okay.
14	A that just became the subject
15	line. But this was a separate request for
16	Q. This is a separate
17	A 25,000.
18	Q. Correct. So there were really two
19	requests; one relates to Amex and one relates to
20	the \$25,000 loan?
21	A. On the same thread.
22	Q. Okay.
23	A. Yeah.
24	Q. Did David Erickson send to you a
25	spreadsheet every month describing his expenses?

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1	A. The process was that Mr. Erickson
2	would send an e-mail asking for an amount for his
3	Amex bill, and then, at some time after, maybe a
4	week or two, he would actually provide me a
5	spreadsheet with the coding of that amount.
6	Q. Okay. And that would show
7	business expenses and personal expenses?
8	A. Correct.
9	Q. And you would code it
10	appropriately?
11	A. He would categorize them and to
12	an expense an expense line, expense category,
13	and, yes, that will be sent.
14	Q. You relied on him to identify the
15	personal expenses and the business expenses?
16	A. Correct.
17	Q. And then you would appropriately
18	code those expenses?
19	A. Based on his his categories,
20	yes.
21	Q. And if there are personal
22	expenses, how were those accounted for?
23	A. As advances.
24	Q. As advances?
25	A. (Witness nods.)

	Page 314
1	Q. So, anytime
2	A. And he might he might actually
3	stipulate an advance
4	Q. Yeah?
5	A or just, yeah, typically it
6	would just say, "Advance."
7	Q. Anytime he said that these
8	expenses were personal expenses, you would code
9	that as an advance?
10	A. He would categorize it as an
11	advance, and that's what we would code it, yes.
12	Q. And that's how you would record
13	it?
14	A. Correct.
15	EXHIBIT NO. D-18: E-mail from
16	D. Erickson to T. Severin, A. Zimmerman
17	dated February 26, 2018, Re: Amex
18	(USAProd00544949).
19	BY MR. MAUZY:
20	Q. I'm going to show you 18,
21	Defendant's Exhibit 18, from David Erickson to you
22	and Amanda, regarding Amex.
23	A. Correct, okay.
24	Q. And who who's Pierre?
25	A. Pierre is the external accountant

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	Page 315
1	for Rypl.
2	Q. Is the subject line "Amex"?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. And he tells you:
5	"Call me today regarding
6	documentation."
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. And you send Amanda an e-mail that
9	says, "Please pay from Rypl," correct?
10	A. Correct.
11	Q. And:
12	"Code to new account 14360 and
13	shareholder advance."
14	A. Correct.
15	Q. What's account 14360?
16	A. This was in regards to looks
17	like it's in regards to that \$25,000 loan. And
18	that would have been an advance, balance sheet
19	advance, general journal account.
20	Q. So the shareholder advance would
21	have been recorded as a shareholder advance?
22	A. Correct.
23	Q. All right. I'm showing you
24	Defendant's 19, an e-mail from Dave Erickson to
25	Amanda and you.

Page 316 1 Do you recognize this as an e-mail 2 dated October 27th, 2014, relating to payments to 3 Richard Burry? 4 Yes, I do. Α. 5 This is an accurate copy of that? Q. 6 Α. It looks to be, yes. 7 Q. And does Dave indicate that he has 8 reviewed Richard's payments and made a few requests 9 of you? 10 Α. Yes. 11 Ο. And does he say, stop paying the 12 \$10,000 wire to SmartVu? 13 Α. Yes. 14 And to send the account name that 15 you've been using to book his advances? 16 Α. Yes. 17 And was there a change in Richard O. 18 Burry's company? 19 Α. I don't remember. I wasn't really 2.0 involved with the shareholder payments at that 21 point in time, 2014. 22 Okay. Does he -- does ask you to 2.3 confirm that SmartVu has received only 10,000 each 24 month and no Euro payments? 25 Α. Yes.

Page 317 And that the total of these 1 Ο. 2 payments since 2013, February 2013, is \$160,000? 3 Α. Correct, yeah. 4 Q. Okay. Were you tracking his 5 payments? 6 Α. Yes. These payments were being 7 tracked on the old system, on the Peachtree system. 8 Q. Okay. Did that end up being 9 changed to Sage? 10 Α. Correct. 11 And this advance, these advances, Ο. 12 to Richard Burry were on the books as advances? 13 Α. I assume so. 14 And ultimately it's an advance, a 15 loan, of Firefly's money, correct? 16 Correct. I believe these Α. 17 payments -- and, again, I wasn't actively involved 18 during the 2024 period with these type of payments, 19 but I believe they would have come from Firefly 20 directly. 21 Okay. And this e-mail reflects 22 that Richard Burry was receiving payments as well 23 as -- in the form of advances? 24 Α. Yes. 25 He was a shareholder? Q.

	Page 318
1	A. Correct.
2	Q. And all of the shareholders
3	received advances the majority shareholders?
4	A. The majority shareholders,
5	correct.
6	EXHIBIT NO. D-20: E-mail from T. Rodenburg
7	to A. Zimmerman & D. Erickson dated
8	June 16, 2016, Re: Invoice Payment by FFL.
9	BY MR. MAUZY:
10	Q. I'm looking at 20. I'm handing
11	you 20, Defendant's Exhibit 20, and ask you: Do
12	you recognize this as an e-mail from Toine
13	Rodenburg to Amanda Zimmerman, copying Dave
14	Erickson?
15	MS. SCOTT: Objection. Lack of
16	foundation.
17	THE WITNESS: Well, I'm not on this
18	e-mail so
19	MR. MAUZY: I think it's already been
20	received.
21	BY MR. MAUZY:
22	Q. Can you review this e-mail, and
23	then I'll ask you some questions on it. It's
24	already in evidence. Is Toine Rodenburg associated
25	with a company 10Q21?

	Page 319
1	A. Yes, he is.
2	Q. And did Toine Rodenburg receive
3	advances?
4	A. Yes, he has 10Q21 has received
5	advances, correct.
6	Q. And 10Q21 is associated with Toine
7	Rodenburg?
8	A. Correct.
9	Q. And he was a 10Q21 was a
10	shareholder?
11	A. Correct.
12	Q. And the advances he received came
13	ultimately from Firefly's money, correct?
14	A. It came directly from Firefly.
15	EXHIBIT NO. D-21: E-mail from D.
16	Erickson to T. Severin, A. Zimmerman
17	dated May 30, 2018 (USAProd-00001058).
18	BY MR. MAUZY:
19	Q. I show you Defendant's Exhibit 21,
20	e-mail from Dave Erickson to you, copying Amanda
21	Zimmerman, May 30th, 2018.
22	A. Yes.
23	Q. Do you recognize this document?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. You would have received this back

		Tillay 10, 2023
		Page 320
1	in 2018?	
2	Α.	Yes.
3	Q.	This is an accurate copy?
4	A.	Yes.
5	Q.	Does this relate to a request to
6	transfer money f	from Lloydsville to 10Q21?
7	A.	Yes.
8	Q.	So, is Dave Erickson asking you to
9	move money on be	ehalf of David van der Poel, that is
10	Lloydsville, to	Toine at 10Q21?
11	A.	Yes.
12	Q.	And did you do that?
13	A.	I would have asked Amanda to do
14	it.	
15	Q.	Yeah, okay.
16	A.	But yes, I did
17	Q.	Rypl did this?
18	A.	No. Firefly would Lloydsville
19	would have sent	the money.
20	Q.	Okay. And you facilitated that
21	transfer?	
22	A.	I asked Amanda to
23	Q.	Okay.
24	A.	do it up.
25	Q.	So it was Lloydsville money going
	I .	

	Page 321
1	to 10Q21, correct?
2	A. Correct.
3	Q. And this is David van der Poel
4	loaning Mr. Rodenburg money?
5	A. Correct.
6	Q. And then David van der Poel
7	receives 100,000 from Firefly to cover it?
8	A. Correct.
9	Q. Correct?
10	A. (Witness nods.)
11	Q. And the reference is Loan?
12	A. Correct.
13	EXHIBIT NO. D-30: E-Mail Chain from
14	T. Rosenburg to T. Severin & D. Erickson
15	Re: Regular payments (USAProd-00544952).
16	BY MR. MAUZY:
17	Q. I'm showing you Defendant's
18	Exhibit 30. This is from Toine Rodenburg to you,
19	copying Dave Erickson, June 27, 2019; is that
20	correct?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. And the attachments are credit
23	card expenses for 2019 for Toine Rodenburg?
24	A. Correct.
25	Q. And it's from Toine Rodenburg?

Page 322 1 Correct. Α. 2 Q. He says he also sent it to Amanda? 3 Correct. Α. 4 All right. Now, were these credit Q. 5 card payments paid? 6 Α. The credit card payments were 7 paid. All right. And this is an example 8 Q. 9 of another shareholder having the credit card 10 payments paid? 11 These were automatically paid Α. 12 because these are Firefly Lane credit cards. 13 O. Okay. 14 So they were on autopayment. 15 All right. So the difference O. 16 between David Erickson, he had his own personal 17 credit card, and Toine Rodenburg and other 18 shareholders had Firefly Lane credit cards? 19 Α. Firefly Lane, or in the case of 20 Chad Moldon and Ryan, they would have Rypl credit 21 cards. 22 But you'd still pay those credit 23 card expenses for those shareholders? 24 They're attached to the bank Α. Yes. 25 accounts, so they're automatic payment.

Page 323 1 And you -- and you'd keep track of Q. 2 them? Correct. We would receive a 3 Α. 4 statement. And the only difference between 5 Ο. 6 the other shareholders was they had company credit 7 cards and Dave Erickson had his own personal credit 8 card? 9 Α. That is correct. 10 You treated them the same way, Q. 11 correct? Yeah. Well, the company credit 12 Α. 13 card, we would have the statement so we could ask 14 questions about it. In Mr. Erickson's case, we did 15 not; we did not have the statement. 16 O. But the ultimate payment was 17 treated the same --18 Α. Correct. 19 -- for those credit cards? Q. 20 Α. Correct. 21 That is, the credit cards to the 22 other shareholders, either Rypl credit card or 23 Firefly credit card, and Dave's personal American 24 Express were treated the same? 25 They were all paid. Α.

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Q. They were all paid?
A. Correct.
Q. All right. Going to the oh,
I'm sorry, this is the second page.
A. Okay.
Q. The second page of Defendant's 30.
Does he say:
"In was talking to Dave about
the \$200K payment from Lloydsville"?
And then you say:
"Also in terms of the other
\$200K loan that came directly from
Firefly, Dave confirms that this
will be deducted from the 'extra
dividend' although we are not sure
when this will happen."
Do you see that?
A. I'm not sure which page. This
particular page?
Q. It should say on the bottom, 002.
A. Yes, okay.
Q. Okay. Do you see the line in the
middle of the page above "Tony":
"[] the \$200K loan that came
directly from Firefly, Dave confirms

Page 325 that this will be deducted from the 1 2 'extra dividend' although we are not 3 sure when this will happen." 4 Α. Correct. 5 Okay. And in the period of time Ο. 6 2018, the dividends had not been issued through a 7 resolution by Firefly, correct? 8 Α. Correct. 9 So the extra dividend was something that would be received in the future, 10 11 that was the hope? 12 Again, that was the plan, yes. 13 Ο. Yeah. At the bottom of the page, 14 does it say: "per DE," Dave Erickson, the extra 15 dividend is expected soon now that the banking is 16 squared up? 17 Α. That's the response from Toine, 18 yes. 19 Q. Yes. But dividends, in fact, were 2.0 not issued in 2018? There was no dividends in 2018. 21 Α. 22 0. Okay. There was a hope that 2.3 dividends would be declared? 24 There was a plan for dividends to Α. 25 be declared at some point, yes.

Page 326 1 All right. I mean, there was Ο. 2 always a plan that eventually the dividends would be issued and the dividends would clear up the 3 4 loans? 5 That was the objective, yes. Α. 6 Q. Right. That was the objective? 7 Α. Yes. 8 Q. And that was always the objection 9 (verbatim) during the period of time 2013 to 2019? 10 That was my understanding. Α. 11 EXHIBIT NO. D-32: E-Mail Chain from 12 D. Erickson to T. Severin dated May 29, 13 2014, Re: Partner Payments 14 (USAProd00544934). 15 BY MR. MAUZY: 16 I'm going to show you what's been 17 marked as Defendant's Exhibit 32. This is an 18 e-mail chain, starts, if you look on the back page, 19 an e-mail from you. 2.0 Uhm-hmm. Α. You say, "Hi Dave, I went..." Do 21 22 you recognize this as an accurate copy of e-mails 23 that you would have received? 24 Α. Yes. 25 And the e-mail May 28th, 2014: Q.

	• ,
	Page 327
1	"Hi Dave,
2	[] went through the []
3	numbers and pulled out expenses that
4	I could easily identify as payments
5	for (or to) partners. They total
6	\$384K."
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. And Dave says:
9	"I think there are a number of
10	these that are not 'Partner
11	Payments' per se."
12	You could be missing some numbers for
13	partners who are not paid via reimbursements, need
14	to allocate for health benefits, office space,
15	utilities, etcetera. And those could be hidden
16	costs, correct?
17	A. Correct.
18	Q. And you tell Dave:
19	"Since the partner payments and
20	reimbursements are in multiple
21	accounts, [you] wanted to identify
22	lines in the expense categories that
23	were going to partners []"
24	A. Uhm-hmm.
25	Q. And Dave says:

Page 328 "Let's talk about this. 1 2 had many discussions over the years 3 about 'normalizing' the expenses. 4 They tend to be political and have 5 no useful application that I have 6 ever seen, unless one is planning on selling the business and wants to up 7 8 the bottom line." 9 Does he tell you --10 "I can tell you after partner 11 meetings we have had that there is 12 no impetus for cutting partner 13 compensation and as such, these 14 'partner payments' are indeed 15 payroll costs and not distributions 16 of profit." 17 Correct? 18 Correct. 19 O. So all of the money that went to 2.0 the shareholders were listed and recorded as 21 advances; isn't that true? 22 Α. Well, this is an e-mail from 2014. 2.3 Q. Yeah. 24 So I don't know if that's exactly Α. 25 the case. Again, there we were using -- we were on

Page 329 1 the old accounting system, so information was a 2 little hard to put together. 3 Yeah. Ο. 4 Α. So I really can't --5 Ο. This was --6 Α. -- speak much more to it. 7 Q. Okay. This was early on in your 8 tenure? 9 Yes, I was new here. Α. 10 [Reporter intervenes for clarification 11 purposes] 12 THE WITNESS: I was new. 13 BY MR. MAUZY: 14 Let's go to the period of time 15 2013-2019. The payments that the shareholders 16 received were advances? 17 The -- quote-unquote, the advance 18 on payment program, or advance on dividend program, 19 started, I believe, was April of 2014, around this 20 time. 21 Ο. Yeah. 22 Where it was kind of formalized, 23 this would be an amount that the shareholders would 24 get every month. 25 Even the 2013, they were recorded Q.

	Tintoino severin 1714 10, 2023
	Page 330
1	as advances?
2	A. That I don't know. That There
3	was a portion of something like that 10,000
4	was
5	Q. Yeah?
6	A. I don't know I don't know all
7	the payments
8	Q. All right.
9	A going back that far.
10	Q. But the payments to David Erickson
11	were always loans or advances during that period of
12	time, 2013 to 2019?
13	A. Okay. Going back to 2013, he did
14	receive consulting payments.
15	Q. Yeah.
16	A. Halstead Bay did get consulting
17	payments.
18	Q. All right.
19	A. And obviously Amex payments.
20	Q. Right. So, in addition to
21	consulting payments and Amex payments, the money
22	that he received were advances?
23	A. Correct.
24	EXHIBIT NO. D-33: E-Mail from T. Severin
25	to D. Erickson dated March 29, 2016,

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1	Re: Feb-16 (USAProd-00259268).
2	BY MR. MAUZY:
3	Q. Okay. I'm handing you Defendant's
4	Exhibit 33, and ask you if you recognize that as an
5	e-mail that you sent to Dave Erickson March 29th,
6	2016.
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. All right. This is an automatic
9	copy of that e-mail?
10	A. Uhm-hmm.
11	Q. And you said:
12	"Hi Dave, I misspoke this
13	morning" about "273K before your
14	expenses."
15	And in terms of expenses: Van der Poel
16	had a house rental of 84,000; there was a Halstead
17	loan of 25,000; Toine, 16,000; and Dave's Amex
18	typically 50 percent expensed.
19	And when you said is that correct?
20	A. Correct.
21	Q. None of these were payments made
22	to those companies
23	A. Correct.
24	Q or individuals?
25	And you also say the dividends are

Page 332 1 about 80,000 a month. 2 A lot of times, when people refer to 3 dividends -- and this is 2016 -- they aren't 4 actually dividends in the sense of a resolution 5 being passed by the Board authorizing a dividend to 6 be paid? 7 MS. SCOTT: Objection. Lack of 8 foundation, improper opinion, calls for 9 speculation, vague. THE WITNESS: That is correct. 10 11 BY MR. MAUZY: 12 That's correct? Ο. 13 Α. Yes. 14 Okay. The reference to dividends Ο. 15 here is really advances? 16 Α. Correct. 17 EXHIBIT NO. D-34: E-Mail from T. 18 Severin to D. Erickson dated March 23, 19 2016 Re: Amex (USAFilterProd-00001070). 20 BY MR. MAUZY: I'm going to hand you Defense 21 22 Exhibit 34, and ask you if this -- you recognize 23 this as an e-mail March 23rd, 2016, from you to Dave Erickson, subject "Amex"? 24 25 Α. Yes.

Page 333 And you give him the cash -- you 1 Ο. 2 recognize this as an authentic copy of an e-mail 3 you would have received? 4 Α. I do. 5 And you said you were going back 6 to book \$2,876.33 as interest on Chad's shareholder 7 loan --8 Α. Correct. 9 -- per your spreadsheet. Ο. 10 And you say he does have personal 11 items? 12 Α. Correct. 13 And he also asks you to send the 14 general ledger breakdown of last month's Amex? 15 the bottom of the page. 16 I'm asking Dave, yes. 17 To send the breakdown of last O. 18 month's Amex, right? 19 Α. Correct. 2.0 Okay. All right. So, you kept Ο. 21 track of Chad Moldon's expenses and loans? 22 Not the loans. I would provide 2.3 Dave a listing of his personal expenses that Dave would, in turn -- I guess he had a -- he had a 24 25 spreadsheet document stating those loans, and then

Page 334 1 he would send me back an amount of interest, 2 basically saying, "Okay, the company owes Chad 3 Moldon, Firefly owes Chad Moldon, money, and we 4 will -- you know, we want to expense some interest 5 based on the loan that Chad has with the company." 6 Q. Okay. What company did they have 7 the loan on? 8 I assume Firefly. 9 O. Okay. 10 It wasn't -- this particular one Α. 11 wasn't really on the books. Mr. Erickson had this 12 in the spreadsheet somewhere. 13 Okay. So this wasn't an official Ο. 14 loan from Firefly? 15 Α. No. 16 It was a different type of loan? 17 I believe it was some amounts that Α. 18 were owing to Mr. Moldon pre him becoming a shareholder. 19 20 EXHIBIT NO. D-35: E-Mail from T. 21 Severin to D. Erickson dated November 22 15, 2017, Re: FW: Cash Balance at end 23 of October (USAFilterProd-00001102). 24 BY MR. MAUZY:

Q.

Okay. All right. Let's look at

25

Page 335 -- I'm going to hand you Defendant's Exhibit 35. 1 2 (Witness reviews document). Α. 3 This is -- you recognize this as Ο. 4 an e-mail from you to Dave Erickson, November 15th, 2017? 5 6 Α. Yes. 7 Q. And he would have received this e-mail? 8 9 Α. Yes. 10 At the bottom of the page, you say Ο. 11 cash -- you give him the cash balance, it was over 12 5 million. "No shareholder activity for Chad." 13 And "please provide coding for the Amex payment"? 14 Correct. 15 Okay. So you were keeping close 16 track of all of these expenses, were you not? 17 Well, we needed to close the Α. 18 books, so, yeah, it was about making sure that all the entries were in the books. 19 20 And that was part of your job, to Ο. 21 keep track of all those? 22 Α. Correct, yes. 23 EXHIBIT NO. D-36: E-Mail from T. 24 Severin to D. Erickson dated September 25 23, 2016, Re: Accounting

Page 336 (USAFilterProd-00001035). 1 2 BY MR. MAUZY: 3 All right. I'm showing you Ο. 4 Defendant's Exhibit 36. Do you recognize this as 5 an e-mail chain, you, Dave Erickson and Paul Eidsness? 6 7 Α. Yes. 8 Q. And you were keeping track of Paul 9 Eidsness, he was a shareholder? 10 Α. Correct. 11 You're keeping track of payments Ο. 12 to him? 13 Α. Yes. 14 And you say: The shareholder Ο. 15 payments you show are as follows, and you list 16 several beneath that, correct? Yes. Mr. Erickson had asked me 17 Α. 18 for a copy of Paul's ledger accounts. Some of 19 these -- these were amounts paid to Mr. Eidsness, 20 some of them before he became a shareholder. And I 21 don't have the -- some parts, there's some missing 22 here. Okay. But Paul Eidsness did 23 Q. become a shareholder? 24 25 He did, yes. Α.

Page 337 And he received advances as 1 Ο. a shareholder? 2 3 He -- I don't believe he ever Α. 4 received an advance on -- on dividend. He was one of the people that did not, one of the shareholders 5 6 who did not receive those. 7 Okay. But did he get loans, then? 8 He received -- he would be paid a 9 consulting fee, and he did take a loan. 10 remember correctly, it was \$200,000, a one-time 11 loan. 12 And that was booked as a loan? Ο. 13 Α. Correct. 14 And Firefly's money? Ο. 15 That was Firefly's money, correct. Α. 16 Ο. Okay. 39 -- do you recognize this 17 as -- I'm sorry, 37, Defendant's Exhibit 37. 18 Α. 37. 19 Q. From Dave Erickson to Amanda, copying you, relating to Toine's cash advances? 20 21 Correct, from the corporate card. 22 0. You recognize this as authentic, 23 an e-mail you would have received at the time? 24 Α. Yes. 25 And does it say that: Q.

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1	"Toine that's Toine
2	Rodenburg "making investment in
3	Spain by taking cash advances from a
4	corporate card."
5	A. Correct.
6	Q. And does he say:
7	"[] please code them to his
8	partner loan account and pay it back
9	from his dividends from April
10	through December of this year."
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. But no dividends were issued in
13	2016, correct?
14	A. Correct. These would have been
15	deducted from the advances that were paid during
16	that year.
17	Q. And Toine Rodenburg was a
18	shareholder?
19	A. Correct.
20	Q. He took cash advances?
21	A. He took cash advances on his
22	corporate card, correct.
23	Q. And you recorded those as
24	advances?
25	A. Correct.

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1	Q. And the money came from Firefly?
2	A. Correct.
3	EXHIBIT NO. D-40: E-Mail from T.
4	Severin to G. Elias, et al, dated
5	September 24, 2018, Re: Surecom/Firefly
6	advances/dividends and accounting.
7	BY MR. MAUZY:
8	Q. I'm handing you Defendant's
9	Exhibit 40. Do you recognize this as an e-mail
10	from you to Gregory Elias, copying Eidsness Law
11	Offices?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. And this is in 2018?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. And you say:
16	"[] we wanted to stop doing
17	the advances and start doing
18	Dividends. This would require
19	proper board resolutions from both
20	Surecom and Firefly. Is that
21	possible?"
22	A. Yes.
23	Q. But Board resolutions did not
24	issue in 2018?
25	A. Correct.

Page 340 1 There was a general desire to stop Ο. 2 doing advances and start using dividends in 2018? 3 Α. Correct. 4 Q. But it didn't happen? It did not -- the advances on 5 Α. dividend program continued to the end of 2019. 6 7 So no dividends were issued after 8 a Board resolution in 2018? 9 Α. Correct. EXHIBIT NO. D-41: E-mail from T. 10 11 Severin to D. Erickson dated February 12 13, 2017, Re: Cash position at end of 13 Jan-17 (USAProd-00263403). 14 BY MR. MAUZY: 15 I show you Defendant's Exhibit 41, 16 ask you if you recognize this as an e-mail from you 17 to Dave Erickson, February 13th, 2017, regarding 18 cash position at the end of January '17. 19 Α. Yes. 2.0 Do you recognize that as an Ο. 21 authentic e-mail that you would have received? 22 Α. It is. 23 Q. And you say: 24 "[...] my understanding is that 25 you have only four actual payments

	Page 341
1	(of which 2 are for Richard)."
2	And then you give a list of Surecom
3	dividends?
4	A. Correct.
5	Q. And under "Bannister," you have
6	"Firefly," 468,418, and it says, "Apply to Loan"?
7	A. Yes. This is a copy of Dave
8	Erickson's spreadsheet.
9	Q. Yeah.
10	A. And that's what he puts beside
11	that figure.
12	Q. Right. And he makes the same then
13	for Lloydsville and the others on that sheet?
14	A. Correct.
15	Q. He it's his spreadsheet he
16	provides with you, and he's keeping track on behalf
17	of all the shareholders, correct?
18	A. He's keeping track of all the
19	shareholders, correct.
20	Q. And although it uses the term
21	"dividend," you would agree that in 2017, no
22	dividends authorized by resolution had been paid?
23	A. There is no yes, there is no
24	dividend for that year.
25	Q. We're going to put a couple up on

Page 342 1 the board. Thank you for your patience with me. 2 These go much smoother if there are meetings ahead 3 of time with the witness. 4 MS. SCOTT: Permission to strike, 5 improper statement. 6 BY MR. MAUZY: 7 Let's look at Government 8 Exhibit 40. I think this was discussed yesterday. 9 There's a discussion of dividends in this e-mail. But when they use the term 10 11 "dividends," they're really discussing the dividend 12 advance; isn't that correct? 13 Α. Correct. 14 Look at 42. First let's go to 41. MS. SCOTT: I'll note for the record 15 16 the government did not introduce Government 17 Exhibit 40 on the record yesterday. 18 MR. MAUZY: All right. Well, we would 19 move to admit Government 40. 2.0 MS. SCOTT: No objection. 21 EXHIBIT NO. G-40: E-mail from T. 22 Severin to D. Erickson dated August 8, 2.3 2017, Re: August dividend. 24 BY MR. MAUZY: 25 I'm showing you Government Q.

Page 343 1 Exhibit 41. 2 MR. MAUZY: Has this been admitted? 3 I'm going to move to admit Government 41. This is 4 an e-mail from David van der Poel to Tony Severin, regarding dividends. 5 EXHIBIT NO. G-41: E-mail from D. 6 7 Erickson to T. Severin dated September 8 12, 2017, Re: Cash Balance as of 9 Aug-17, Amex and Chad's SH. 10 BY MR. MAUZY: 11 Do you recognize this? Ο. 12 I do. Is this regarding Α. dividends, you're saying? 13 14 Okay. Cash balance as of August 15 17th, Amex and Chad, shareholder. It says: 16 "Thanks Dave." There's a reference to "a small amount of the dividends were accrued" and "yes, we 17 18 paid close to \$1 million in dividends in August." 19 Do you see that? 2.0 Α. Yes. 21 And when you refer to "dividends," 22 you're actually meaning advances; is that -- is 2.3 that correct? 24 Α. Correct. These were coded as 25 advances.

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1	Q. Okay. On the books of Rypl and
2	Firefly, these were advances?
3	A. Correct.
4	Q. Okay. In 2017, no dividends
5	authorized by resolution had, in fact, been passed,
6	correct?
7	A. Correct.
8	Q. Government 42. I believe this has
9	been admitted. If I'm incorrect, please correct
10	me.
11	MS. SCOTT: Correct.
12	BY MR. MAUZY:
13	Q. 42, again, they're discussing
14	there's a use of the term "dividends," "great to
15	declare the dividend, " "next board meeting."
16	And Dave Erickson says a "shareholder
17	agreement allows for Advances."
18	And you say sounds like jokingly:
19	"Don't say that." I "need to
20	produce all the shareholder
21	agreements to the bank."
22	MS. SCOTT: Objection, improper
23	characterization.
24	BY MR. MAUZY:
25	Q. Does the first line of this

	Page 345
1	exhibit say:
2	"Then I would need to produce
3	all the shareholder agreements to
4	the bank."?
5	A. It does.
6	Q. Did I read that correctly?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. Do you recognize this as an
9	authentic e-mail that you would have received?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. And even though there's a
12	discussion of dividends in this e-mail, there were
13	no dividends issued?
14	A. These were advances.
15	Q. Yes. And you were aware that
16	there was a shareholder agreement among the
17	shareholders?
18	MS. SCOTT: Objection, lack of
19	foundation.
20	THE WITNESS: No, I wasn't wasn't
21	saying that there was a shareholder agreement. I
22	had not seen any shareholder agreement.
23	BY MR. MAUZY:
24	Q. Right.
25	A. What I'm insinuate what I'm

Page 346 saying here is that, if you're going to call these 1 2 "advances," the bank is going to want to see the 3 shareholder agreement, you know, so it's... 4 Q. But that might cause issues? 5 Α. Yeah, it would. 6 Q. Okay. 7 Α. You got to send the shareholder 8 agreement, and I've never seen one, so I don't 9 know. 10 Ο. All right. 11 It would cause an issue if we Α. 12 didn't send it to them. All right. Defendant 42. 13 In the Ο. 14 last exhibit, Dave Erickson refers to a shareholder 15 agreement, right? 16 Α. He does. 17 And he says the shareholder O. 18 agreement allows advances? 19 Α. Correct. 2.0 EXHIBIT NO. D-42: E-mail from T. 21 Severin to D. Erickson dated October 22 22, 2018, Re: Last wire. 2.3 BY MR. MAUZY: 24 I'm showing you Defendant's 25 Exhibit 42. And this references a Lisbon meeting?

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1	A. Uhm-hmm.
2	Q. Do you recognize this as an e-mail
3	you would have received from David van der Poel?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. It's an authentic copy of an
6	e-mail that you would have received?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. And they're discussing things they
9	agreed on at a Lisbon meeting?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. "Dave will set out plan for
12	advance payments and adjust the
13	budget []
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. And they agreed that Dave will
16	create a plan for advance payments that they all
17	approve?
18	A. Okay. Yes.
19	Q. Would you agree this shows the
20	shareholders were agreeing to continue the advances
21	to themselves?
22	MS. SCOTT: Objection, calls for
23	speculation.
24	THE WITNESS: That would be my
25	assumption.

Page 348 1 BY MR. MAUZY: 2 So let me see if I can summarize Q. 3 The shareholders receive payments in the this. 4 form of loans, receive regular payments or advances in anticipation of dividends, and receive personal 5 expenses that are paid on credit cards? 6 7 It's not on the exhibit. 8 Oh, I see. Okay. 9 Yeah, the shareholders received -- some of them received those monthly advances on 10 11 dividends. Other ones -- and then there will be 12 these ad hoc advances and other loans. 13 Okay. And you kept track of all Ο. 14 these? 15 Correct. Α. 16 MS. SCOTT: Objection, asked and 17 answered. 18 BY MR. MAUZY: 19 Q. And they ultimately were all from 20 Firefly funds, correct? 21 MS. SCOTT: Objection, asked and 22 answered. 23 THE WITNESS: They would have been 24 ultimately from Firefly, yes. 25

	Timeonio Severini iviagi 10, 2025
	Page 349
1	BY MR. MAUZY:
2	Q. And they were going to
3	shareholders of Firefly?
4	MS. SCOTT: Objection, asked and
5	answered, duplicative.
6	THE WITNESS: That's what the intention
7	was, correct.
8	BY MR. MAUZY:
9	Q. Okay. And the intention
10	ultimately was that those advances would be paid by
11	dividends issued by a Board resolution?
12	MS. SCOTT: Objection, asked and
13	answered.
14	THE WITNESS: That was the plan.
15	EXHIBIT NO. D-43: E-mail from D.
16	Erickson to T. Severin dated February
17	27, 2020, Re: Shareholder balances.
18	BY MR. MAUZY:
19	Q. I'm going to show you Defendant's
20	Exhibit 43.
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. Do you recognize that as an
23	e-mail?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. You received that in the regular

	Page 350
1	course of business?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. It's from Dave Erickson to you?
4	A. Correct.
5	Q. This is an automatic copy?
6	A. Uhm-hmm.
7	[Reporter intervened for clarification
8	purposes]
9	THE WITNESS: Yes.
10	BY MR. MAUZY:
11	Q. Looking at the second page: Dave
12	had asked
13	"David had asked for
14	shareholder balances now that
15	effective" January '20, "we are not
16	doing advances of dividends []"
17	A. Correct.
18	Q. So, by February 2020, there
19	weren't advances of dividends. And it says:
20	"(or as Russell refers to them
21	as Loans)."
22	MS. SCOTT: Objection, improper
23	question.
24	BY MR. MAUZY:
25	Q. Do you have the exhibit before

	Page 351
1	you? On the second page.
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Okay. And do you say:
4	"David had asked for
5	shareholder balances now that
6	effective" January 1st, 2020,
7	we're "doing advances of
8	dividends (or as Russell refers to
9	them as Loans)." [As read]
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. And at this point, there had not
12	been a resolution as yet authorizing dividends; is
13	that correct?
14	A. That is correct.
15	Q. So any payments received were
16	either advances or loans?
17	A. Or or whatever the other
18	categories
19	Q. Yeah.
20	A they were talking about.
21	Q. Expenses and payment?
22	A. Yeah.
23	EXHIBIT NO. D-45: E-mail from T. Severin
24	dated July 18, 2022 "Ledgers Reconciliation".
25	BY MR. MAUZY:

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1	Q. Now look at Defendant's
2	Exhibit 45. This is an e-mail from you, July 18th,
3	2022. Subject is, "Ledgers reconciliation"?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. And do you recognize this as an
6	e-mail you would have received in July 18th, 2022?
7	A. An e-mail that I would have sent?
8	Q. Sent, yes.
9	A. Yes, on July 18th, 2022.
10	Q. It's an e-mail exchange that you
11	were a part of, right?
12	A. Yes, with Mr Mr. Eidsness.
13	Q. And Eidsness sent it to you, and
14	then you responded to him?
15	A. Correct.
16	Q. And you say it's the:
17	"first draft of the Ledgers
18	reconciliation for the distributable
19	income"?
20	A. Correct.
21	Q. And you say that the
22	"This profit is 35.6 million."
23	And you want to deduct 9 million to
24	keep in reserve?
25	A. Correct.

	Page 353
1	Q. And then you say:
2	"That means we should we
3	should have distributed 26.6 million
4	to the shareholders in dividends
5	based on the share ownership put in
6	place in November 2012." [As read]
7	A. Correct.
8	Q. Correct?
9	But, in fact, the dividend resolution
10	had not been issued by 2022, correct?
11	A. I believe there was a dividend in
12	20 at the end of 2021. I think there was a
13	dividend resolution for 1,869,250.
14	Q. Yeah. But your statement is, "we
15	should have distributed \$26.6 million to the
16	shareholders in dividends"?
17	A. When as part of the ledgers,
18	yes.
19	Q. But you did not distribute
20	26.6 million, correct?
21	A. What (Witness reviews
22	document).
23	MS. SCOTT: Objection, vague,
24	confusing.
25	THE WITNESS: I'm not sure how to

	1 Million of Severin 1 Milly 10, 2020
	Page 354
1	answer that.
2	BY MR. MAUZY:
3	Q. All right. There's a sentence
4	that says the "profit was 35.6 million"?
5	A. Correct.
6	Q. You deduct 9 million we keep in
7	reserve?
8	A. Correct.
9	Q. "That means we should have"
10	when you use the term "should have" that means you
11	didn't "should have distributed 26.6 million";
12	is that correct?
13	A. We should have distributed
14	26.6 million.
15	Q. Yeah, but you did not distribute
16	26.6 million?
17	A. Well, we did distribute monies, we
18	talk about that's the whole conversation about
19	loans and all that.
20	Q. Yeah.
21	A. It's obviously not going to be
22	exactly 26.6 million.
23	Q. Right.
24	A. But there was there is a
25	figure.

Page 355 Right. But it was not -- when 1 Ο. 2 you're referring to dividends, they're not actually dividends? 3 4 Α. Correct. 5 Q. Okay. Okay. 6 Α. My -- I guess my thinking, to 7 expand on that, is that if they were dividends, it would have been 26.6 million we would have 8 9 distributed. 10 Ο. Yeah. But they weren't 11 distributed? 12 They were not dividends, no. 13 Ο. Okay. We're going to go to 14 Government Exhibit 47 that you were asked about it 15 -- 57. All right. 16 So we have up on the board Government Exhibit 57. I think you reviewed this yesterday. 17 18 Α. Yes. 19 Q. There was an e-mail, and the 20 spreadsheet was attached to it. This is 45 --21 well --22 Did you often make spreadsheets as part 23 of your job at Rypl? 24 Α. Yes. 25 And was this spreadsheet made in Q.

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1	the ordinary course of business of your job at
2	Rypl?
3	A. I wouldn't say "ordinary." This
4	was requested by David van der Poel and Charlotte
5	as well.
6	Q. And this was part of your duties
7	at Rypl?
8	A. It was part of my financial
9	duties, to put this together, yes.
10	Q. Do you remember making this
11	spreadsheet?
12	A. I do.
13	Q. Yesterday, Ms. Scott asked you
14	about several loans
15	A. Correct.
16	Q in the "Bannister" column?
17	A. Correct.
18	Q. You pointed out that there were
19	other loans on the spreadsheet?
20	A. Correct.
21	Q. Do you agree that line 26 shows
22	the total advances and loans received by each
23	shareholder from 2012 to 2019?
24	A. Again, this is draft 1. I can't
25	speak to, like, the actual final numbers. There

Page 357 were some revisions there. But that was the idea, 1 2 that that line would be the amount, yes. 3 This is what you were attempting Ο. 4 to do, was to show the total advances and loans 5 received by --6 Α. Correct. 7 -- each shareholder from 2012 to 8 2019, correct? 9 Α. Correct. 10 And it shows that David van der O. 11 Poel, Lloydsville, owes \$5,209,574? 12 It would have shown he took out Α. 13 5,200,000. The distributable profit for the 14 shareholder would have been line -- I can't see 15 that line, but line -- that line there, yes. And 16 so that he would have been eligible for an 17 additional 180,000. 18 O. Okay. Did he owe 5,209,000? 19 He had received 5.2 million in Α. 20 advances. 21 Advances? Ο. 22 Α. Those are listed up there. 23 Q. Yeah. 24 And then -- and then some charges, Α. 25 some Demmingshire, some other ad hoc stuff.

	Page 358
1	Q. Okay. So he received over
2	5 million in advances?
3	A. Correct.
4	Q. And David Erickson of Bannister,
5	on your spreadsheet, owes over \$7 million?
6	A. Correct.
7	Q. And Toine Rodenburg, another
8	shareholder, 10Q21, owes over \$6 million?
9	A. Sorry. That's the wrong line. As
10	far as owing it would have been paid in
11	advances.
12	Q. Okay.
13	A. Yeah.
14	Q. Advances?
15	A. Yeah.
16	Q. Right. We all get confused about
17	advances.
18	So he received over 6 million in
19	advances?
20	A. Correct.
21	Q. And Richard Burry received four
22	and a half million in advances?
23	A. Correct.
24	Q. And David van der Poel received
25	over 5 million in advances?

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1 Α. Correct. 2 Q. And your spreadsheet is really an 3 attempt to see how much everyone had been paid, so 4 that the partners could begin to plan on, if 5 dividends were issued, how to pay back those 6 amounts? 7 Α. The objective really of this would 8 have been to kind of do up like a partnership 9 reporting. 10 Ο. Yeah? 11 I use the example of a legal firm, 12 they're partners, the company made -- the legal 13 firm made X amount, you're going to distribute --14 distribute Y amount, and then that's, you know, you 15 get 10 percent of that less your draws. So, you 16 know, there would be an amount owing. So that's 17 basically the objective of the -- of this 18 particular document. 19 Ο. Okay. So that all the 2.0 shareholders would know how much the other shareholders had received? 21 22 Α. Correct, correct. 2.3 EXHIBIT NO. D-46: E-Mail from Paul

2021.

Eidsness to T. Severin dated March 15,

24

25

Page 360 1 BY MR. MAUZY: 2 I'm going to show you Exhibit 46, Q. which has three pages to it, from Paul Eidsness to 3 4 Do you recognize this as an e-mail from Paul 5 Eidsness --6 Α. Yes. 7 Q. -- to you, March 15th, 2021? 8 Α. Yes. 9 And the subject is, "Projected Ο. Surecom dividends 2021"? 10 11 Α. Yes. 12 And you would have received this Ο. 13 in your job at Rypl, correct? 14 Correct. And this is authentic? 15 O. 16 Α. Yes. 17 And you remember receiving this? Ο. 18 Α. Yes. 19 Q. So, at this point in time, had 20 there been a resolution issued in 2021? 21 There was a -- there was a 22 resolution, and I believe it to be at the end of 23 2021. 24 Does Paul Eidsness say, in Q. 25 paragraph 4 on page 2, that:

	Page 361
1	"Before we declare dividends
2	paid to the shareholders of Firefly,
3	we need to have the amount of
4	dividends 'advanced' or 'loaned'
5	before for each shareholder"? [As
6	read]
7	A. He does.
8	Q. Does he say:
9	"That way we can decide how
10	much of their 'loans' they should
11	repay after they calculate how much
12	of their dividend needs to go to the
13	tax man"? [As read]
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. So the idea here is that dividends
16	would be declared and they, the shareholders, need
17	to know how much they've been advanced or loaned so
18	that they can apply the dividend to the those
19	amounts owing?
20	MS. SCOTT: Objection. Calls for
21	speculation, compound, improper characterization.
22	THE WITNESS: Yes, I assume that's what
23	it means.
24	BY MR. MAUZY:
25	Q. Is that what it means?

Page 362 1 I assume that's what is meant by 2 that, correct. 3 Okay. And is that something you Ο. 4 would need to have in order to pay off loans? You'd need to know the amount of the loans or 5 6 advances? 7 Α. Correct. 8 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Excuse me, Counsel. 9 At an appropriate time, could I end this video and 10 start a new one? 11 MR. MAUZY: Yes. 12 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Okay. One moment, 13 please. 14 This marks the end of media number two 15 of Volume 2. We are going off the record at 16 12:27 p.m. Thank you. 17 -- RECESS TAKEN AT 12:27 P.M. --18 -- UPON RESUMING AT 12:38 P.M. --19 This is media unit THE VIDEOGRAPHER: 2.0 three of Volume 2 of the video recorded deposition 21 of Antonio Severin. We're back on the record at 22 12:38 p.m. 23 Go ahead, Counsel. 24 MR. MAUZY: Thank you. EXHIBIT NO. D-47: E-mail from G. Elias 25

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1	to T. Severin, et al, dated August 10,
2	2023, Re: Firefly Lan Corporation
3	Resolution 8/10/2023.
4	BY MR. MAUZY:
5	Q. I'm handing you Defendant's
6	Exhibit 47, marked for identification. There's two
7	or three e-mails. One's from you to Paul Eidsness,
8	and one is from Paul Eidsness to you, and one is
9	from Greg Elias to you and Paul Eidsness and the
10	shareholders.
11	Do you recognize this?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. Okay. This is an e-mail from
14	Gregory Elias, and you recognize his e-mail
15	address?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. You recognize your e-mail address?
18	A. Yes.
19	Q. Paul Eidsness' e-mail address?
20	A. Yes.
21	Q. And c.c., you recognize the e-mail
22	addresses of all of the shareholders, as well as
23	Charlotte Janssen, Counsel?
24	A. Correct, yes.
25	Q. Okay. And this is an authentic

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1 copy of an e-mail that you would have received back 2 in August 2023, correct? 3 Α. Correct. 4 I'm going to start by looking at the bottom of this exhibit, which says, "Good 5 6 morning Mr. Elias." This is from Paul Eidsness. 7 Does he say he's attaching a draft resolution of 8 the director of Firefly Lane for his execution? 9 Α. Yes. 10 And that: Ο. "This Resolution is for the 11 12 payment of a dividend in the amount 13 of 8M dollars to Firefly's 14 shareholders"? 15 Α. Yes. 16 0. And does he say that: 17 "[...] the Resolution is tied 18 to the prior resolution from 19 December 15, 2021 which acknowledged 2.0 the numerous outstanding loans that 21 had been provided to the shareholders over the course of 22 2.3 several years when Firefly was not 24 yet positioned to pay dividends"? 25 Α. Yes.

Page 365 And we have looked at that 1 0. 2 12/15/21 resolution earlier, correct? 3 I believe so. I don't remember Α. 4 that one specifically but... I believe that one referred to the 2022 dividend. 5 Okay. And he goes on to say: 6 Q. 7 "You may recall that many of 8 these loans were loosely referred to 9 as the 'dividend advance 10 program'..." 11 Do you remember that? 12 Α. Yes. 13 "...and consisted of regular 14 payments to some of the 15 shareholders." 16 Α. Correct. 17 Was that true? 0. 18 Α. As we've discussed, yes, that's 19 true. 2.0 Q. And it states: "Other shareholders were 21 22 borrowing money ad hoc during the 23 same period to help them with home 24 purchases, marital dissolutions and 25 the like."

	Page 366
1	A. Correct.
2	Q. And was that true?
3	A. That is true.
4	Q. And:
5	"Pursuant to the 12/15/21
6	Resolution acknowledging the need to
7	repay these loans, and in
8	conjunction with the fact the
9	company had begun to pay dividends,
10	we are making this present
11	Resolution with the
12	understanding" that the
13	shareholders "with outstanding
14	loans will use the process the
15	proceeds of this dividend to pay
16	down their loan balances." [As read]
17	A. Correct.
18	Q. Is that true?
19	A. That is true.
20	Q. "While the loan balances will
21	not be fully extinguished in most
22	cases," it's "a very good start."
23	Is that correct?
24	A. Correct.
25	Q. And you were able to reconstruct

•
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how much each shareholder owed, either in the form
of advances or loans, correct?
A. Yes.
Q. You had that information?
A. I had it, yes.
Q. You kept that information at the
time?
A. We had worked on it, and had
finalized it, correct.
MR. MAUZY: I need a moment, sorry.
EXHIBIT NO. D-49: E-Mail from T.
Severin to B. Granity, et al, dated
June 22, 2023, Re: RE: Dave Erickson
due To/From Balances and Dividends
received June 21, 2023.
BY MR. MAUZY:
Q. I'm going to show you Defendant's
Exhibit 49, and ask if you recognize this as an
e-mail from Dave Erickson to you and others.
MS. SCOTT: Objection, mischaracterizes
exhibit.
BY MR. MAUZY:
Q. Well, is Exhibit D-49 from Brian
Hanlon
A. Yes.

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1	Q to you
2	A. Yes.
3	Q saying, "Hi Tony"?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. And then you send an e-mail to
6	him, to Brian Granity?
7	A. Correct.
8	Q. And others at United International
9	Trust, right?
10	A. Correct.
11	Q. All right. Let's look at Brian
12	Hanlon is the director at Granity?
13	A. Correct.
14	Q. And he says:
15	"This is the first attempt at
16	reporting trying to get agreements
17	on Partner Balances. We will start
18	with Dave Erickson to begin with, I
19	have broken out the transactions by
20	year. As you can see there are a
21	large amount of transactions and
22	many are inadequately documented."
23	A. Correct.
24	Q. And you respond:
25	"There is a lot to go through."

Page 369 1 Α. Correct. 2 Q. So every effort was being made to account for the loans that were made to David 3 4 Erickson, correct? 5 Α. Correct. 6 Ο. The intention was to make sure 7 that all of the payments that had gone to him 8 would, in fact, be paid off? 9 Objection, calls for MS. SCOTT: 10 speculation, improper conclusion. 11 THE WITNESS: Yeah. I mean, there was 12 obviously an interest to make sure that the 13 balances were correct. 14 BY MR. MAUZY: 15 Yeah. And to make sure that they 16 were correct was to make sure that all of the loans 17 and advances would be paid off with dividends? 18 And we were -- eventually paid them off, yes. 19 2.0 And, in fact, that was the O. Yes. 21 plan from the very start, as you understood it: 22 People would receive loans, would receive advances, 2.3 would receive payment of expenses; all of those

would be tracked, and ultimately dividends would be

issued and those dividends would be utilized to pay

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Page 370 back the loans? 1 2 Α. Yes. That's -- that's why it was referred to as "advances on dividends." 3 4 objective of the -- the plan was to have them offset by declared dividends. 5 6 Q. All right. I'm going to put up --7 you were asked about Government Exhibit 26. And this is an exhibit about David Erickson reducing 8 9 his ownership in Rypl? 10 Yes. I asked him to -- that we Α. 11 should talk about this. 12 Correct. And this was your idea, Ο. 13 right? 14 Α. Yes. 15 And David's shares in Rypl were Ο. 16 preferred shares, correct? 17 I believe they were, yeah. Α. 18 can't remember. 19 Ο. Let me show you Government 55. 20 This is page 22 of Government Okay. 55. Does it reference common shares? 21 22 Α. Yes. 23 And preferred shares? Q. 24 Α. Yes. 25 Did David Erickson own 50 percent Q.

Page 371 1 of the preferred shares? 2 Α. Yes. 3 Which would be 25 percent of all Ο. 4 of the shares? 5 Α. Correct. And the suggestion -- your 6 7 suggestion was to reduce that amount to under 8 25 percent? 9 Correct. Α. 10 And the reason he got preferred Ο. 11 shares in the first place was because of some 12 immigration issues, because he was coming to Canada so often? 13 14 MS. SCOTT: Objection, calls for 15 speculation. 16 THE WITNESS: That's my understanding. BY MR. MAUZY: 17 18 And what is the difference between 19 preferred shares and common shares? 2.0 Typically, common shares are Α. 21 voting shares, and pref shares, preferred shares, 22 are more like a debt, but they're not -- nonvoting. 23 So in this situation, Chad Moldon owns -- is the holder of 100 percent of the voting 24 25 shares of Rypl.

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1	Q. And, generally, preferred
2	shareholders do not get dividends, right?
3	A. They can.
4	Q. Yeah?
5	A. Yeah.
6	Q. Did David Erickson get dividends
7	ever from Rypl?
8	A. From Rypl, there's never been any
9	dividends issued from Rypl.
10	Q. Nobody has ever received a
11	dividends from Rypl?
12	A. Nobody has ever received a
13	dividend from Rypl.
14	Q. And David Erickson did not receive
15	a dividend from Firefly and its entities until
16	Board resolutions were passed authorizing the
17	issuance of dividends?
18	MS. SCOTT: Objection, asked and
19	answered.
20	THE WITNESS: So Bannister did not.
21	BY MR. MAUZY:
22	Q. Bannister?
23	A. Yeah, did not receive dividends
24	until I think the resolution of late 2021, if I
25	remember the date of that one.

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MR. MAUZY: I have no other questions.

MS. SCOTT: Before the government seeks a redirect, it is my understanding that counsel for Mr. Severin would like to make a statement on the record.

MR. GINTER: That's correct. We heard today about some documents in e-mail form that had Ms. Janssen either attached or part of that e-mail. Ms. Janssen has put on the record that she is the counsel for Rypl.

It is our position that Ms. Janssen has not waived any sort of privilege with respect to the e-mails that she was involved in in her role as counsel for Rypl.

I believe there was two e-mails that we saw with Ms. Janssen on -- on them, and that it is our position with respect to Ms. Janssen, that those e-mails are privileged communication between her as her position as counsel for Rypl.

We did hear about some e-mails as well regarding Paul Eidsness. I understand that
Mr. Eidsness had a dual function possibly, but
Mr. Severin described Mr. Eidsness, I believe
multiple times, as "the attorney," and we are -it's our position that we're not waiving any

Page 374 1 privilege with respect to Mr. Eidsness and any work 2 he did as counsel in this matter. 3 So we wanted to put that on the record 4 as well. 5 MS. SCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Ginter. 6 Mr. Mauzy, Mr. Dooling, I have about ten minutes of questions. I would respectfully 7 8 like to sit in front of the witness. If you like, 9 we can take a moment to switch seats. 10 Mr. Court Reporter, may we please go 11 off the record briefly? Thank you. 12 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Yes, one moment, 13 please. 14 Going off the record at 12:53 p.m. 15 Thank you. -- RECESS TAKEN AT 12:53 P.M. --16 17 -- UPON RESUMING AT 12:58 P.M. --18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the 19 record at 12:58 p.m. Go ahead, Counsel. 2.0 MS. SCOTT: Before the government 21 begins its redirect examination, Mr. Mauzy would 22 like to make a statement. 2.3 MR. MAUZY: Our recollection is that 24 there are numerous e-mails in discovery that 25 reference Charlotte Janssen. No objection was made

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to the disclosure of any of those documents.

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Secondly, Mr. Erickson was a preferred shareholder and can certainly waive the privilege. The documents were distributed to people outside of the privileged context and no assertion has been made before today. No assertion was made before the examination.

MS. SCOTT: The government would also like to put on the record to clarify the matter of discovery. As defense counsel is well aware from numerous discovery productions made by the United States Government, the United States Government received e-mails pursuant to an electronic search warrant executed on the e-mail account dave@halsteadbayholdings.com. The government then applied a series of keyword searches to identify both responsive e-mails to the search warrant, as well as privileged e-mails to the search warrant.

It is the government's position here to put on the record that Ms. Janssen's name and Mr. Eidsness's name were included as potentially privileged keywords. All such records hitting on those keywords were segregated from the government's access.

In order to comply with the

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government's discovery production, the government produced the entire universe of records obtained from that search warrant, including records that had been deemed both non-responsive and potentially e-mailed to the defense under Rule 16, as containing Defendant's statements, and potentially other rules of discovery.

The government will note on the record today that, in particular, Defense Exhibit 38 and 39 were first received by the government yesterday. It is the government's understanding that counsel for -- that neither counsel for Rypl, nor counsel for Mr. Severin, had reviewed either such e-mail until today.

Are we ready to proceed with redirect examination?

REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. SCOTT:

- Q. Hi, Mr. Severin, how are you?
- A. Very good.
- Q. I briefly have some questions for you that came up on your cross-examination with Mr. Mauzy.

I am going to show you what's been -- what was shown to you as Defense Exhibit 18. Do you recall reviewing this e-mail with Mr. Mauzy?

Page 377 1 Α. Yes. 2 Q. I would just like to direct your 3 attention to the highlighted portion, which is the 4 last full sentence above your name. This reads: 5 "So on the advance, can I get 6 7 Paul E. to do some paperwork for the 8 advance. Term, interest rate, 9 etc??" 10 Were you asking Mr. Erickson, the 11 Defendant, for documentation regarding a payment 12 request that he had sent you? 13 Α. Yes. 14 Can you please describe what sort 15 of paperwork you were hoping to receive in 16 response? 17 Hopefully receive a loan document Α. 18 that would list the repayment terms, basically, and 19 the interest rate. 2.0 And did you ever receive such Ο. 21 document? 22 Α. No. 2.3 Have you ever received a document Q. 24 pertaining to a loan agreement between Dave 25 Erickson and Firefly or related companies, between

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1	the years 2013 and 2019?
2	A. No.
3	Q. I am also going to show you what
4	was marked what was discussed as Defense
5	Exhibit 26, and I'm going to go to page 2.
6	The title of this document is, "Demand
7	Promissory Note." Do you recall reviewing this
8	document with Mr. Mauzy?
9	A. Yes.
10	Q. Based on your role as a controller
11	and the Director of Finance, and your background in
12	accounting, is this the type of document or similar
13	to the type of document you were hoping to receive
14	related to the loan payments sent to the Defendant
15	in earlier years?
16	A. Yes. This would be a typical
17	promissory note or loan loan document.
18	Q. What makes it typical?
19	A. Because there's an amount of the
20	loan, there's a date of the loan, there's a
21	repayment schedule, and there's an interest rate
22	associated with it.
23	Q. Thank you.
24	You were also asked questions about the
25	time in which you tendered a resignation to Rypl;

Page 379 1 do you recall that? 2 Α. Yes. 3 Ο. Mr. Mauzy asked you several 4 questions about whether that resignation was due, 5 in part, because it was stressful dealing with 6 banks. Do you recall discussing that, too? 7 Α. Yes. 8 Q. Was it also stressful working with 9 the partners? It was sometimes frustrating, for 10 Α. 11 sure. 12 O. Can you explain why it was 13 frustrating occasionally? 14 I think --15 MR. MAUZY: Objection. Objection, relevance and 403. 16 17 I think I did note in my THE WITNESS: 18 resignation e-mail that part of the issue, we were 19 going -- Rypl was going through a CRA audit, a 20 Canada Revenue Agency audit. Part of the issue 21 there was that the supporting documents were not 22 readily available, and that's not just on the Amex 2.3 billing but also on the other -- the other 24 partners, being Chad and Ryan, had credit card

bills, and it was always a tough time getting the

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receipts on these credit card bills. So that just fed into extra paperwork for -- or extra work for me, and extra frustrations regarding that audit.

BY MS. SCOTT:

- Q. And you just referred to Amex.

 Are you referring to the Defendant's credit card that was paid by Rypl?
 - A. Yes, I am, yes.
- Q. Do you also recall discussing with Mr. Mauzy the types of information regarding partner payment -- strike that, I'm going to rephrase that question.

You testified that any shareholder would be able to see amounts paid to the shareholders if they had access to the general ledger. Is that a statement that you said on cross-examination?

- A. In relation to if they want to see their payment listing?
 - O. Yes.
- A. Let's say if they want to see their amounts of money that was paid, yes, they would request it from me, or Amanda, and we can go into the general ledgers and run a report that would show all their -- all their payments.

Page 381 1 Did they have to request it from Ο. 2 you, or could they access it themselves 3 individually? 4 No, they couldn't access it 5 themselves, no. 6 Q. Do you recall any instances in 7 which Mr. Rodenburg asked you to see a copy of the 8 general ledger, prior to 2019? 9 Α. No. 10 Do you recall any instances in Ο. 11 which Mr. Van der Poel asked to see a copy of the 12 ledger, prior to 2019? 13 Α. No. 14 Do you recall any instance in 15 which Mr. Burry asked to see the ledger, prior to 16 2019? 17 Α. No. 18 Ο. Do you recall any instance in 19 which Mr. Moldon asked to see the ledger, prior to 2.0 2019? 21 Α. No. 22 0. I'm now going to show you what was 23 shown as Defense Exhibit 45, which was an e-mail 24 between you and Mr. Eidsness, in 2022, regarding 25 the ledger reconciliation. Do you recall

Page 382 discussing this? 1 2 Α. With Mr. Mauzy? 3 Yes, sir. Ο. 4 Α. Yes. 5 I'm going to highlight the Ο. 6 sentence that begins, "This is pretty close..." Ιt 7 continues: 8 "...but there is a vast 9 difference on how the payments were distributed to each shareholder 10 11 which will obviously bring about a 12 lot of tensions." 13 I'd like to ask you about the last 14 clause in this sentence. What are you referring to 15 when you say "will obviously bring about a lot of 16 tensions"? 17 Well, the Bannister payouts were a Α. 18 lot more than the other senior -- senior 19 shareholders, so I knew that would cause some 2.0 issues. 21 Prior to 2022, do you recall 22 having any conversation with any shareholder of 2.3 Firefly, apart from the Defendant, about payments that were being made to the Defendant? 24 25 Α. No.

Page 383 1 MR. MAUZY: Calls for hearsay. 2 Objection. 3 BY MS. SCOTT: 4 Q. Around the time of Defense Exhibit 45, 2022, did you have conversations with 5 other Firefly shareholders about payments that were 6 7 made to the Defendant over the years? 8 MR. MAUZY: Objection, hearsay. 9 THE WITNESS: What time period? 10 MR. MAUZY: Right to confrontation. 11 BY MS. SCOTT: 12 I'll rephrase. Around the time of O. 13 this e-mail, Defense Exhibit 45, July 2022, do you 14 recall having any conversations with shareholders 15 other than the Defendant about payments that were 16 made to him over the years? 17 MR. MAUZY: Objection. Hearsay, denial 18 of right to confrontation. 19 THE WITNESS: Yes. 20 BY MS. SCOTT: 21 Did you have an opportunity to 22 observe how those shareholders responded to 23 learning about those payments? 24 MR. MAUZY: Objection, vague, calling 25 for hearsay, 403, 404.

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THE WITNESS: Yes, particularly our 1 2 interactions with David van der Poel. So he was 3 not -- he was not happy to learn of the excessive 4 amounts that Mr. Erickson had taken over him --5 over -- the extra payments that Mr. Erickson had 6 had versus his holding company. 7 BY MS. SCOTT: 8 And can you please describe what 9 about Mr. van der Poel led you to that conclusion 10 that he was surprised? 11 MR. MAUZY: Objection, hearsay, denial 12 of right to confrontation, 403, 404. 13 THE WITNESS: Yeah, he had -- he had 14 told me as such. 15 [Reporter intervened for clarification 16 purposes] 17 BY MS. SCOTT: 18 Mr. Severin, I've highlighted the 19 second-to-last sentence shown in this blown-up 20 section, starting with, "Based on this formula." 21 Can you please read that highlighted sentence? 22 Α. Sure. 2.3 "Based on this formula Dave and 24 Toine received more than their 25 entitlement and the rest received

Page 385 1 less." 2 Q. Now, switching gears just a little bit, I have one more topic I'd like to discuss with 3 4 you. 5 You testified on cross-examination that 6 there came a time when what was phrased as "the 7 advance dividend program" was formalized. 8 recall discussing that? 9 Α. Yes. 10 O. You stated during 11 cross-examination that that meant there was an 12 agreement that certain shareholders would receive certain amounts advanced; isn't that --13 14 MR. MAUZY: Objection, misstates the 15 testimony, and counsel is testifying, leading. 16 BY MS. SCOTT: 17 Ο. Is that a correct summary of the 18 statement you made earlier? 19 That certain shareholders received Α. 2.0 certain amounts of the advance on dividend program? 21 Yes, that's what I stated. 22 Ο. That's a fair characterization of 2.3 what you meant when you said "formalize the advance dividends program"? 24 25 MR. MAUZY: Objection, asked and

Page 386 1 answered. THE WITNESS: That was the formal 2 3 advance on dividend program, yes. 4 BY MS. SCOTT: 5 I'd like to show you Defense 6 Exhibit 30, which was shown to you. This was an 7 e-mail from Mr. Rodenburg to you, with 8 Mr. Erickson, the Defendant, copied on it, from 9 June of 2019. 10 Do you recall reviewing this e-mail? 11 T do. Α. 12 The last full sentence -- the Ο. second-to-last full sentence states: 13 14 "Please note that the last 15 advance (minus credit card deductions) that I received was for 16 17 the month of March." [As read] 18 Is this an e-mail from Mr. Rodenburg? 19 Α. Yes. 2.0 Was Mr. Rodenburg one of the Ο. shareholders who received set amounts as advanced 21 dividends? 22 2.3 Α. Yes. 24 From those amounts, were personal Q. 25 credit card deductions taken out from the amount?

Page 387 1 Α. Yes. 2 Q. Can you please compare this treatment to how Rypl handled the personal expenses 3 4 paid by the Defendant on his credit card? Compare -- in this situation here, 5 Α. 6 I think Toine had discussed this with Mr. Erickson 7 about these personal charges that were going to go 8 on his Firefly credit card. 9 MR. MAUZY: I'm going to object to this 10 as hearsay. 11 THE WITNESS: And that that will be a 12 repayment plan to that. That never happened, but 13 -- in any of the personal expenses on 14 Mr. Erickson's credit card. 15 BY MS. SCOTT: Did the Defendant receive a set 16 Ο. 17 advance pursuant to the advanced dividend program 18 monthly? 19 Α. No. 2.0 Based on your interactions with Ο. 21 the Defendant, and from your position as the 22 Director of Finance and the controller of Rypl, did 2.3 there appear to be any different rules regarding 24 how the Defendant received partner payments and how

the other Firefly shareholders received partner

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Page 388 1 payments? 2 MR. MAUZY: Objection. Vague, calling 3 for speculation, potentially calling for hearsay, 4 403, 404. 5 THE WITNESS: There was obviously 6 differences. I assume that they were approved at 7 the Board level, but there were certainly 8 differences in the way the three other senior 9 shareholders received advances on dividends versus how Mr. Erickson received them. 10 11 BY MS. SCOTT: 12 And who was directing you how to Ο. 13 make advanced dividend payments? 14 Mr. Erickson. 15 MS. SCOTT: I have no further 16 questions. 17 MR. MAUZY: No questions. 18 MS. SCOTT: This will conclude the 19 deposition of Mr. Tony Severin. 2.0 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Okay. We are off 21 the record at 1:17 p.m. And this concludes today's 22 testimony given by Antonio Severin, Volume 2. 2.3 Total number of media used was three and will be retained by Veritext Legal Solutions. 24 25 -- Deposition concluded at 1:17 p.m.

Page 389 1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 2 3 I, JUDITH M. CAPUTO, RPR, CSR, CRR, 4 Registered Professional Reporter, certify; That the foregoing proceedings were 5 6 taken before me at the time and place therein set 7 forth, at which time the witness was put under oath 8 by me; 9 That the testimony of the witness and 10 all objections made at the time of the examination 11 were recorded stenographically by me and were 12 thereafter transcribed; 13 That the foregoing is a true and 14 correct transcript of my shorthand notes so taken. 15 16 17 18 Dated this 30th day of May, 2025. 19 2.0 - Jalagara Ou 21 22 PER: JUDITH CAPUTO, RPR, CSR, CRR 23 24 25

Page 390 1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER 2 3) CANADA 4 PROVINCE OF ONTARIO 5 6 I, Judith M. Caputo, the officer before whom the 7 foregoing deposition was taken, do hereby certify 8 that the witness whose testimony appears in the 9 foregoing deposition was duly sworn by me; that the 10 testimony of said witness was taken by me in 11 shorthand, using Computer Aided Realtime, to the 12 best of my ability and thereafter reduced to 13 written format; that I am neither counsel for, 14 related to, nor employed by any of the parties to 15 the action in which the deposition was taken, and 16 further that I am not related or any employee of 17 any attorney or counsel employed by the parties 18 thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in 19 the outcome of the action. 20 - Jalagua Ou 21 22 Judith M. Caputo, RPR, CSR, CRR 23 24 Commissioner for taking 25 Oaths in the Province of Ontario

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INSTRUCTIONS TO WITNESS

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Read your deposition over carefully.

It is your right to read your deposition and make changes in form or substance. You should assign a reason in the appropriate column on the erratum sheet for any change made.

After making any changes in form or substance, and which have been noted on the following erratum sheet, along with the reason for any change, sign your name on the erratum sheet and date it.

Then sign your deposition at the end of Your testimony in the space provided. You are signing it subject to the changes you have made in the erratum sheet, which will be attached to the deposition before filing. You must sign it in front of a witness. The witness need not be a notary public. Any competent adult may witness your signature.

Return the original erratum sheet promptly. Court rules require filing within 30 days after you receive the deposition.

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[yeah - zimmerman]

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 30

- (e) Review By the Witness; Changes.
- (1) Review; Statement of Changes. On request by the deponent or a party before the deposition is completed, the deponent must be allowed 30 days after being notified by the officer that the transcript or recording is available in which:
- (A) to review the transcript or recording; and
- (B) if there are changes in form or substance, to sign a statement listing the changes and the reasons for making them.
- (2) Changes Indicated in the Officer's Certificate. The officer must note in the certificate prescribed by Rule 30(f)(1) whether a review was requested and, if so, must attach any changes the deponent makes during the 30-day period.

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ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

THE ABOVE RULES ARE CURRENT AS OF APRIL 1,

2019. PLEASE REFER TO THE APPLICABLE FEDERAL RULES

OF CIVIL PROCEDURE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

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